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TUESDAY OCTOBER 22 1996



LIFE OF THE PARTY

The political hostess with the mostest is back
PAGE 16



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TOURN 3 PAGE 15



LIBBY PURVES

Frances Lawrence's crusade hinges on prison reform
PAGE 18



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PAGES 24, 25

Lost forever: a nation's heritage looted by its own people

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
IN KABUL



A cast of a pot from the lost Bagram collection

AFGHANISTAN has lost its past to war. Great palaces and mansions are destroyed, historical monuments have been shelled, the National Museum is rubble. Every item of state treasure has been smashed, sold or stolen. Few countries have been so systematically raped by their own people.

The plunder and destruction began after the former Soviet Union invaded in 1979. The country disintegrated socially and economically, but arguably as disastrous has been

the destruction of its heritage — which was unique because of Afghanistan's position at the crossroads of commerce and conquest for thousands of years.

The National Museum held one of the world's greatest multicultural antique collections: Persian, Indian, Chinese, Central Asian and beyond. The Russians respected and protected the relics, but American-backed Mujahidin rebels saw them as ready cash, to be blasted out of their vaults and hauled away to buyers across the world. The collection can never be reassembled, or even located. Pottery from prehistory was

bundled into bags like cheap china: ivory statuary of Indian courtesans from the 2nd century AD were stuffed into the pockets of gunmen and carted off to Pakistan to be sold for a song, eventually turning up on the world's antique art markets for huge sums.

The Bagram collection, one of the greatest archaeological finds of the 20th century, disappeared — 1,500 lacquers, bronzes, ivories, glassware items and statuary from ancient Rome, Greece, India, China, Egypt and Central Asia. The trove, some of it dating from the 1st century, was discovered northeast of Kabul in

1939 in two sealed rooms. This was the site of Kapisa, summer capital of Kanishka, King of the Kushans. In the 2nd century the emperors of Rome and the Han emperors of China avidly exchanged their most exotic products with the Kushan Empire, many of which were found at Bagram. Some were probably from a Kushan national museum. Of this, nothing is left.

More than 40,000 coins, among them some of the world's oldest from prehistory, vanished. Afghan and Pakistani politicians were key players in the plunder of these and other items from the National

Museum, and it is known that one piece is held by Major-General (retired) Nasirullah Babar, the Pakistani Home Minister, who bought it for three million rupees (£57,000). He says he will return it when there is peace in Afghanistan. A marble fountain bowl, found near the tomb of Babar (1403-1530), first of the six Great Moguls, has gone. Lorryloads of items from Afghan prehistory — Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic — were carried away like junk, to be sold for pennies or dumped because they seemed worthless. Of the entire vast collection, the whereabouts of only

13,000 pieces was known up to 1994. In and around Kabul the destruction of the architectural heritage is almost absolute. There is one strange survivor: the modest marble tomb of Babar, sitting on a hill overlooking the capital, its marble canopy bullet-holed and broken, but the tomb itself in perfect condition save for some carved graffiti. It is the centrepiece of a once beautiful park, its trees chopped to stumps for firewood. The Persian inscription

Continued on page 2, col 3

Embattled Taliban, page 15

'Good citizen' prize honours stabbed head

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AN ANNUAL good citizenship award for young people is to be set up in the name of the murdered headmaster Philip Lawrence, Michael Howard announces today.

The Home Secretary says that the memorial award, which will recognise outstanding contributions towards the community, is one of a series of ideas being considered by the Government to improve society.

Ministers also aim to reduce violence on TV, to announce a scheme by the end of the year to identify potential offenders and turn them away from crime, and to establish a national network to prevent crime and combat violence. That might include a "mentor" system where adults are asked to befriend and supervise individual young people.

Writing in *The Times* today, Mr Howard says that details of the citizenship award will be discussed with Mrs Lawrence's widow, Frances, who this week launched her own campaign to reverse the deterioration of society. The Home Secretary writes: "In taking forward the values for which he (Mr Lawrence) stood, we can at the same time honour his memory."

Mrs Lawrence was last night delighted by the announcement. "The children and I are profoundly moved that the Government wishes to mark Philip's life in this way."

she said. "I also hope that plans to put lessons in citizenship at the heart of the curriculum will go ahead."

She and her family had been heartened by the enormous support that she had received from all quarters. "I am taking stock of all the suggestions made and hope in the next few days to see how we can translate hopes into action."

Mr Howard's initiatives came as all three party leaders endorsed Mrs Lawrence's manifesto. Mrs Lawrence has had meetings with the Prime Minister, Mr Howard and Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, and she is also expected to meet Tony Blair and his education spokesman, David Blunkett.

Yesterday ministers and shadow ministers vied to outdo each other by announcing or confirming a series of initiatives in response to her programme — although Mrs Shephard, who announced that the Government was to pilot good citizenship classes, denied that politicians were being driven to action by public movements such as Mrs Lawrence's and the Dunblane Snowdrop campaign against guns.

Mr Blair backed her call for lessons on good citizenship to be included in the national curriculum and said Mrs Lawrence had done a real service for the country. John

Major said that Mrs Lawrence had "touched a chord" and had strong support from the Government, while Paddy Ashdown said that she was speaking for "millions of Britons".

One of Mrs Lawrence's proposals was a ban of the sale of combat knives and while Mr Howard does not commit the Government to that, he indicates in his *Times* article that he intends to extend the ban on the sale of knives to the under 16s which comes into effect on January 1.

He also says that a green paper will be published soon to extend the tagging system to cover young offenders and further legislation will be introduced to make it easier for schools to discipline disruptive pupils.

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, meanwhile announced that he would be putting forward plans to introduce special parenting classes to advise teenagers and young adults of the difficulties of bringing up a family.

Mr Straw will also propose new "parental responsibility orders" which would require parents to take counselling sessions or attend classes if a court found that they were not looking after their children properly.

Grassroots movement, page 7
Michael Howard and Libby Purves, page 18

Manchester loses to Wembley

Wembley looked almost certain to be chosen as the site of the new national stadium after the governing bodies of football, rugby league and athletics gave it unanimous backing over the rival bid from Manchester.

Although the £200 million cost of rebuilding the 74-year-old arena would be higher, the worldwide reputation of the twin-tower stadium gave Wembley the edge. A final decision is expected from the Sports Council by the end of the year after prolonged postponements.

Former Tory MP joins Labour

A former Conservative MP has joined the Labour Party. Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler, 62, a management consultant, was the only Tory MP to join the SDP in 1981 but lost his seat at the 1983 general election. He has since unsuccessfully fought parliamentary seats as an SDP/Alliance candidate and as a Liberal Democrat candidate.



Cardinal Basil Hume launches the Catholic church's policy document yesterday

Ministers clash over Catholic Church's 'pro-left manifesto'

BY RUTH GLEDHILL AND JAMES LANDALE

THE Catholic Church last night faced a barrage of criticism after advocating a range of left-leaning policies in a pre-election manifesto designed to remind Catholics of the church's teaching on social issues.

Although bishops denied that the document favoured any political party, their support of key Labour policies such as a national minimum wage prompted criticism from Tory MPs and ministers.

But two ministers appeared to be at odds over the document. While Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, attacked its support for a minimum wage, Ann Widdecombe, a junior Home Office minister and leading Catholic, claimed that the document had been misrepresented.

She repeated the church's view that the document did not advocate a minimum wage, but merely stated that the policy was not prohibited under Catholic teaching.

David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, claimed the church's views tallied with Labour's. "We think the values they are espousing, and the hope that they want to see for the future, is in line with the stance and the promises of the Labour Party." Launching

the 35-page document yesterday, Cardinal Basil Hume, the Archbishop of Westminster, said it did not attempt to propose specific solutions to complex social, economic and political questions. "Much less is it a directive to people how they should vote," he said. "That would be quite imprudent on the part of us the bishops. We expect Catholics to study what we have said and vote in accordance with a properly informed conscience."

However, the document, titled *The Common Good*, condemns the "unlimited free market", says the decline in trade union membership is "not necessarily a healthy sign", and speaks warmly of Britain's membership of the European Union. "It is possible to be both British and European," it says. The report demands that workers should

Continued on page 2, col 6

Leading article, page 19

Murder witness to give away £250,000 reward

BY ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY AND ADRIAN LEE

A BRITISH tourist whose evidence helped to convict Ivan Milat, the Australian "backpacker murderer", says he will give a £250,000 reward to charity and the victim's families.



Onions: "special man"

for life in July for murdering seven backpackers. His identification of the killer was crucial in securing a conviction. The reward was offered by Australian Police before Milat's capture.

The air-conditioning engineer from Willenhall, in the West Midlands, was on a backpacking tour of Australia in 1990 when he was given a lift by Milat. He narrowly escaped death when his attacker shot at him and wrestled him to the ground alongside the Sydney-Melbourne road. Mr Onions escaped by throwing himself in front of an oncoming car, forcing it to stop.

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Oxford student, 18, found dead in bed

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

A PROMISING Oxford classics student has been found dead in her college bed one week into her first term. Police were last night investigating how Rachel Steer, 18, from Surbiton in Surrey, died. No

body has been charged with her death.

Rachel arrived at Oxford two weeks ago and was thought to be settling in well at St Hilda's, the university's last all-female college. Dr Jane Taylor, the Dean, said: "We have no idea of the cause of death. She was a most promising student and perfectly cheerful."

Her tutor was very impressed both with her quality of work and the way she was dealing with it. Her friends say she had a lovely sense of humour. She was a lovely, happy, intelligent, pretty girl."

Dr Taylor added that Rachel's friends had seen her on Sunday and raised the alarm when she did not turn up to lectures yesterday.

Ruth's parents travelled to

the college yesterday where they were being comforted by the Principal, Elizabeth Llewellyn-Smith.

Letters 19, 31

OBITUARIES 21

LIBBY PURVES 18

ARTS 38-40

CHESS & BRIDGE 49

COURT & SOCIAL 20

SPORT 47-50, 52

BODY AND MIND 16

LAW REPORT 23

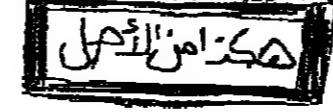
TV & RADIO 50, 51

WEATHER 26

CROSSWORD 26, 52

43

43



Howard drops sex offenders register

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

PLANS for a national register of sex offenders in Britain have been dropped from the Government's main law and order initiative for the next session of parliament.

The proposal is one of several measures aimed at providing greater protection to the public which ministers have been forced to abandon because there is not enough time to pass them before the general election next year.

Among the casualties are plans to make it an offence for convicted paedophiles to seek employment with children, extending DNA testing to allow samples to be taken from all convicted sex offenders in prison and making convicted sex offenders notify police of any change of address.

Michael Howard had hoped to include the measures allowing police to track the movement of paedophiles and other sex offenders in the crime bill to be published later this week. He has had to drop the idea that the Bill, the flag ship measure of the next session, is focussed on automatic life sentences for second time rapists and minimum jail terms for third time burglars and drug dealers.

The decision not to include the proposals in the Bill is a bitter disappointment to police and children's groups who had backed Mr Howard's plan to force convicted sex offenders to put their names on the police national computer.

Michelle Elliott of Kidscape, a children's charity, said the move would let down parents throughout the country. "I am shocked. This was one of the most important measures along with gun controls announced by the government. It is madness not to proceed as children need urgent protection from paedophiles".

Under the home secretary's plan, a convicted sex offender's name would be placed on

the register allowing police to track their movements in England and Wales. It would be an offence not to inform the police of a change of address.

Mr Howard planned that the requirement to register would be for life for anyone given a life sentence or prison term of more than thirty months. The Government has already shelved plans for a Bill introducing a national identity card amid fears that it would provoke divisions within the Conservative party in the run up to the election.

Tomorrow's speech will not include the home secretary's plan to increase public safety by giving employers access to job applicants' criminal records. The proposal, unveiled in a White Paper four months ago, included the creation of a Criminal Records Agency which would charge job seekers for providing information about criminal records.

Employers would be entitled to ask an applicant to present a document disclosing any unsent convictions. The Criminal Records Agency would provide a Criminal Conviction Certificate to a job applicant for less than £20.

Government sources said that Private Members' Bill could be used to put some of the abandoned measures into law though in Whitehall it was predicted that none would be on the statute book before the general election.

Alternatively the government is considering the unusual step of publishing draft Bills which would include the measures and then put them in the Conservative party's general election manifesto.

A nationwide hunt has been launched William Knowles, 35, a convicted paedophile who absconded from a bail hostel. Knowles, formerly from Hull, was jailed for two years in March for abducting a nine year-old boy.

Continued from page 1

tion declares that the remains of Babar, who died in Agra, were returned to Kabul, the town he loved, in 1646 by Emperor Shah Jahan, builder of the Taj Mahal, who also built Babar's tomb and a mosque alongside it.

The mosque is bomb-damaged and peppered with bullet holes. It is a silent place, set amid mile upon mile of ruins.

King Amanullah also built Darulaman Palace in Kabul, a

masterpiece but now a bombed-out shell. Up the hill are the remains of a castle, now occupied by a dozen Taliban soldiers who have positioned a tank on the front terrace, giving clear fire to anywhere in the city. These buildings have been looted of everything worthwhile. Like so much of Afghanistan.

Embattled Taleban, page 15

Continued from page 1

and the Victory Arch, built in the central square of Paghman village by King Amanullah to commemorate victory in the 1919 War of Independence against Britain, is largely destroyed. The nobility built a profusion of public buildings and palaces in Paghman: all are rubble.

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Darulaman Palace in Kabul, a

milestone alongside it.

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King Amanullah also built

'Dead' backpacker returns in time for funeral



Cunningham: did not report lost passport for a month

BY ANDREW DRUMMOND
IN BANGKOK
AND MICHAEL HOMSNELL

A BACKPACKER flies home to Britain from the Far East today to be reunited with the family who believed he was dead. Even his funeral had been arranged.

Paul Cunningham, 25, was reported to have swallowed 43 condoms packed with heroin, one of which had burst in his stomach. However, the news of his death proved to be exaggerated after the Foreign Office uncovered a case of mistaken identity involving a stolen, doctored passport.

The real victim, involved in an international smuggling ring, proved to be a West African drugs runner on his way from the southern Thai town of Hat Yai to

Penang in Malaysia, where there is an international airport. He is thought to have been thrown out of a taxi by colleagues after he became ill. Having crossed the Thai border at Sadao successfully, he was found lying in a coma by the roadside in Butterworth in northern Malaysia.

The British Embassy in Kuala Lumpur was notified on October 10 after Mr Cunningham's passport was found on the dying man. The drug traffickers are thought to have bought the passport on the black market and doctored it with a bogus photograph. Mr Cunningham, a university graduate, did not report it missing for nearly a month.

The first Mr Cunningham knew of his "death" was when he walked into the British Embassy in Bangkok to ask for a replacement. Shocked officials told him: "We thought you were dead. Even your funeral has been arranged."

Mr Cunningham's mother Doreen, 49, said she went through "ten days of absolute hell" after hearing the news that her son had died. She said last night: "I feel as if I'm in the middle of a dream. The last ten days have been an absolute nightmare."

Mrs Cunningham, a mother of two from Oadby, Leicestershire, said after her son telephoned her: "Paul hadn't got a clue what was going on. He had no idea about the grieving at home and continued on his travels. To be told your son is dead and then he is alive is unreal. I can hardly describe my swing in emotions. I keep pinching myself to check it's real."

She added: "At the time I could

never imagine he was involved in drugs. He means so much to me. It was the worst thing a mother could ever imagine. I must have phoned the Foreign Office a dozen times to check there hadn't been a dreadful mistake. But I suppose when you have a son of that age you never know exactly what they are up to."

Paul's father Ruel, 52, said embassy officials were positive it was his son who had died. "I am just extremely relieved to know that everything said about him was totally untrue. We always believed in him."

A spokeswoman for Leicestershire police said: "Our officers acted on the request of the Foreign Office to inform Mr Cunningham's family that he had died while in Malaysia. However, the Foreign Office later informed the force that

Mr Cunningham was alive and well in Bangkok."

A Foreign Office spokesman said: "Apparently Mr Cunningham lost his passport in September and reported it to the embassy only on Friday. During that time his passport was doctoring and found on the body of the dead man."

"We regret the distress caused to the family but the good news is that he is alive and well. Had we been notified earlier of the loss of the passport we would have asked for much more investigation by the Malaysian authorities."

He added: "It is a very tragic case. Something like this is a terrible trauma for the parents and family to go through. We will be investigating it further."

Mr Cunningham had spent six months visiting an uncle in New

York before exploring Australia and Thailand, where he is believed to have lost his passport on September 18.

□ The Foreign Office has mounted an "intensive" investigation into a report that Christopher Howes, thought to have been taken by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, may still be alive. Mr Howes, 36, a mines expert, had been feared dead months after his capture in March.

A Foreign Office spokesman said in London yesterday that they were making intensive inquiries following the report. "We are urging the Cambodian authorities to look at it thoroughly and we are seeking further information from our ambassador in Phnom Penh. But until we have hard evidence it is yet another report that we can neither confirm nor deny."

Midshipman says officers leered at porn film and captain tried to kiss her

Navy woman tells of sex taunts in the wardroom

BY EMMA WILKINS

A ROYAL Navy commander dressed as Julius Caesar tried to kiss a woman midshipman in centurion's clothing during a fancy dress party in the Falkland Islands, it was claimed yesterday.

Claire McGarry, 25, who was dismissed from the Royal Navy last year, brought her case before an industrial tribunal, claiming that she had been the victim of sexual discrimination. She told about pornographic videos being shown in the officers' mess and of how the ship's captain, a commander, touched her on the hips while reading maps on the bridge.

Miss McGarry told the hearing that she had tried to avoid him at the party but he eventually approached her and remarked that it would be "jolly" if they danced together. "Towards the end of the evening the captain said he was surprised I had not danced with him. He pulled my hands and took me to dance."

"As he did so he tried to kiss me and I pulled away quite sharply, feigned an excuse and rushed back to my living accommodation," Miss McGarry, from Newcastle upon Tyne, told the hearing in Exeter. The tribunal has ordered that neither the captain nor his ship be identified.

Miss McGarry also claimed that the captain touched her on the hips while they were studying navigation charts behind a curtain on the bridge. "He put his hands on my hips and moved me

around the chart table, so he could see the navigation work being done by myself. I felt it was unnecessary as there was enough room to see. I did not complain because he was a commander and I was a midshipman, and I was frightened."

Miss McGarry, who was one of three women trainee officers on board, began to avoid her male colleagues in the wardroom after finding them watching a pornographic video. Instead of eating with her fellow officers, she had sandwiches alone in her cabin.

"On one occasion I was unfortunate enough to walk in on a particularly embarrassing video, which I did not think was appropriate," she said. "It was a video being shown to the male officers. I said it should not be shown because it is embarrassing and upsetting when your colleagues are leering at the screen. It makes you feel embarrassed to be a female."

The Navy says that Miss McGarry was not dismissed, but resigned after being sent home from Dartmouth when officers recommended that she be withdrawn from training.

A spokesman for the Royal Navy said all serving personnel knew that forming a sexual relationship with a colleague on board was a disciplinary offence, which could ultimately result in a court martial.

He added that the service was keen to attract women. "We want to encourage more women to join the Royal Navy to have a sailing career." He also said that the showing of pornographic films was "actively discouraged", but could not be completely prevented.

The tribunal was adjourned until today.



Claire McGarry yesterday: she claims she was the victim of sex discrimination

Wallace and Gromit survive New York

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK



A TELEPHONE call before dawn yesterday from a New York taxi driver ended the hunt for the missing cartoon puppets Wallace and Gromit.

The 25-year-old cabie, slightly mystified to find himself at the centre of an international mystery, rang to say that he had found some Plasticine objects in the boot of his Chevrolet, bumping around in their travelling case next to the spare wheel and greasy jack. He had realised what they were after hearing a radio news bulletin about their disappearance.

An hour later the driver delivered the Oscar-winning characters to the Manhattan hotel where their creator, Bristol-based Nick Park, had spent a fitful night.

"It is like getting my two lost children back," said Mr Park, who on Saturday afternoon had sprinted down a rain-soaked street in pursuit of the taxi when he realised that Wallace and Gromit had

been left in the boot. The nine-inch tall figures, constructed around ball and socket joints, included Wallace's celebrated motorbike and Sidecar.

Mr Park, 37, has won three Oscars for his short animated films and is regarded as a world master of his art. He had taken the puppets, which cost £6,000 to make but had considerable emotional value, to the US on Saturday for a promotional tour. They were left behind in the taxi during a rainstorm when a mob of New Yorkers tried to seize the cab as Mr Park alighted at his hotel.

The Indian taxi driver returned the pair yesterday declined to give his name and would not accept a \$100 note he was offered by Mr Park's factotum and publicity adviser Arthur Sheriff. "Tell you the truth," said the streetwise Mr Sheriff, "I was prepared to pay \$300 to get them back." When the figures went miss-

ing Mr Park had been close to tears, but Mr Sheriff had taken more practical action. It was not quite Lord Lucan, but he alerted every police precinct in Manhattan, telephoned news agencies, and had Mr Park draw interpol-style identikit pictures of the missing models.

"I know it sounds like a joke, but they were a good likeness," said Mr Park. "I really didn't think I would see them again, and I would not have done if it had not been for this kindhearted taxi driver who just wanted to do the right thing."

Mr Park's engagingly honest men forced one to regret earlier suspicions that the entire thing was a publicity stunt.

The puppets were reported to be in moderate condition, although slightly dented. Wallace's nose needed marginal adjustment and Gromit's ears could use some attention.

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AUTOLINE



Nick Park after his models were returned to him.

"It's like getting my lost children back," he said

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BECAUSE I'M REALLY EXPENSIVE

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Diamonds service which means no one else can touch you

Man who shot car thief not guilty of manslaughter

BY ADAM FRESCO



A MEMBER of a gun club was cleared of manslaughter yesterday despite admitting that he shot dead a man he found breaking into his car.

Martin Wise, 35, a game-keeper, shot Matthew Hodge, 20, with a replica .25 automatic baby Browning pistol outside his home in Hildenborough, Kent when he saw him trying to steal his Ford Escort.

Mr Wise, a father of four, denied manslaughter at Maidstone Crown Court and said that the handgun had gone off accidentally in August last year. He said he pulled the pistol from his pocket to warn off Mr Hodge, who was armed with a monkey wrench. But as he cocked it, the gun went off.

At the time of his arrest police found 23 weapons at his home and at his mother's home. He said he did not know that the gun was loaded and did not deliberately shoot Mr Hodge as the Crown

Mr Wise leaving court in Maidstone yesterday

alleged. The jury was told that when Mr Wise reported the attempted car theft, he did not tell police about the shooting.

Mr Wise also asked a neighbour to take care of his collection of guns, including a .22 Ruger, a Smith and Wesson revolver and a rare Second World War Colt .45, before officers arrived.

At the time of the shooting he had been on his way to his parents' house where he was required by the terms of his firearms certificate to keep his weapons. He had spent the day shooting at a range in Stone Lodge, near Dartford.

Mr Wise, a former Royal Engineer, has held a shotgun certificate since the age of 17 and a firearms certificate since the age of 21. He had been cleared of murder at an earlier trial.

Detective Superintendent David Clapperton said that Mr Wise's gun licence would be reviewed, particularly the number of weapons he had been allowed to own. He said:

"Matthew was just 21 years of age and his life was taken away from him very tragically and very suddenly. A lot of negative things have been said about him during the trial but he would have grown out of those things. He was never given the opportunity." Mr Wise said last night: "I am very pleased and now I have to think about what to do."

Budgie firm's shares go into tailspin

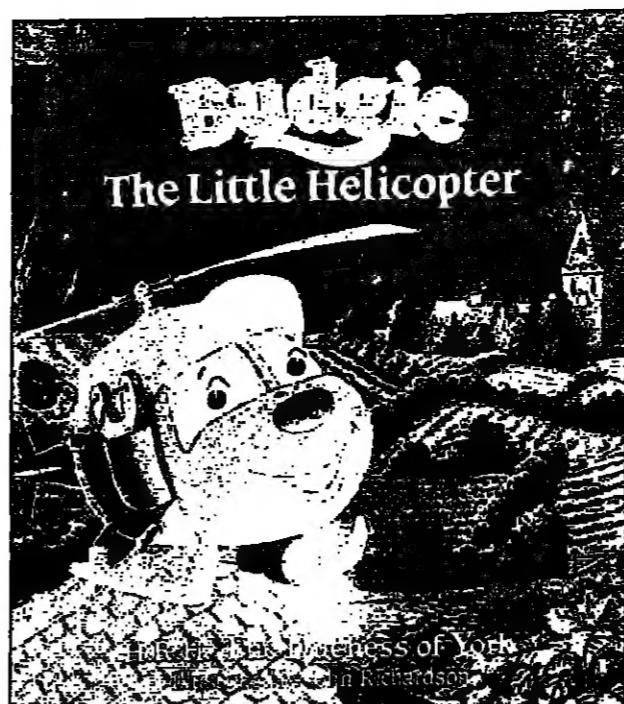
By PAUL DURMAN

BUDGIE the Little Helicopter, the cartoon character created by the Duchess of York, hit fresh turbulence yesterday when marketing problems in the United States saw £2 million wiped off the value of the company that sits at its controls.

Hopes for a revival in the Duchess's notoriously overstretched finances have often been pinned on Budgie, which contributes most of the profits of the stockmarket firm Sleepy Kids. Television rights have been sold to more than 70 countries, and last year the firm made profits of nearly £1 million.

However, the firm's shares fell 6½p to 20p yesterday, their lowest this year. The company is now valued at £6 million, down from £15 million.

Sleepy Kids blamed the latest problems on the failure of its American marketing agent, Launey Hachmann



Budgie is controlled by Sleepy Kids, whose shares fell by 6½p yesterday to their lowest this year

Harris, which was forced to seek protection from its creditors in April. In a statement to the Stock Exchange, made necessary by its collapsing share price, Sleepy Kids said that it had been unable to capitalise on the "initial success" of the Budgie cartoons shown on the Fox Children's Network. The company said it was too early to quantify the damage to profits.

It intends to relaunch Budgie throughout the United States once it has appointed a new agent. First, though, it must straighten out some legal difficulties.

In the 12-point statement, the company attempted to rebut some recent criticisms. For example, it said that Fox had not "dropped" the Budgie series, only rescheduled it. Budgie had been very successful on Fox, the company said, and it was discussing making a fourth series for the ITV network.

JP and ex-wife jailed for lying about crash

A magistrate and his former wife were jailed for lying over a drink-drive accident. John and Anne Bosomworth tried to convince the police and a magistrates' court that she had been at the wheel of their Range Rover when it crashed while returning home to Beamsley, North Yorkshire, after a night out in September 1994. At Leeds Crown Court yesterday, the former Mrs Bosomworth was jailed for nine months, and her former husband for 15 months, after they admitted perverting the course of justice and perjury.

Foetususes 'feel pain at six weeks'

A foetus may be able to feel pain six weeks after conception, says a report by the charity Christian Action Education and Research. A commission of inquiry concluded that almost every expert accepts foetuses can feel pain by 24 weeks, with growing evidence it may occur much earlier. The conclusion has implications for abortion and operations.

Aberfan remembers its dead

The people of Aberfan gathered at a hillside cemetery yesterday, the thirtieth anniversary of the coal tip disaster that killed 116 children and 28 adults. Relatives laid flowers on the rows of graves. The Mayor of Merthyr Tydfil, William Smith, laid a wreath at a memorial service at 9.15am, the time a coal tip slid down the hillside in 1966.

Broadcasters snub Belfast

Up to 200 of Europe's leading broadcasters have abandoned plans to hold a major conference in Belfast next summer because of fears that they will be vulnerable to terrorist violence. The BBC, which is hosting the event, has switched the venue to Edinburgh. The IRA bomb attack on army barracks at Lisburn triggered the change of heart.

Guardsman wins action

A Grenadier Guardsman, Stephen Jordan, 25, of Bilston, West Midlands, who claimed he suffered epileptic fits after the Army imprisoned him for eight months, is understood to have accepted damages from the Ministry of Defence. He claimed he was not properly treated for his epilepsy and was once assaulted by a military policeman.

Stagg lawyer accuses media

William Clegg, the lawyer who defended Colin Stagg, acquitted of the murder of Rachel Nickell, has written to *The Times* accusing the media of pursuing a campaign against his client. Yesterday Mr Stagg claimed he had new information about the murder of Miss Nickell in 1992 and demanded payment for disclosing it.

Letters, page 19

Bride sues GP after having stroke

A bride who was put on the Pill just before her wedding day suffered a catastrophic stroke that has left her totally paralysed, the High Court was told yesterday. Leena Vadera, of Hatch End, Pinner, was a month away from marriage in November 1986 when she consulted her GP. She is suing for damages. The hearing continues.

Forsyth criticises gun group

Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, criticised "insensitive" plans by a gun lobby group to field a general election candidate against him in the constituency of Stirling, which includes Dunblane. He is defending a majority of 703. The Shooters' Rights Association insisted it was the only way to highlight the arguments against strict gun laws.

Labour puts in a call for support

The Labour leadership tried to inject renewed impetus into its manifesto ballot by canvassing 100,000 members by telephone. A week-long campaign was launched to encourage members to endorse or oppose the contents of the mini-manifesto *New Labour, New Life for Britain*, which will be the basis of the party's general election campaign.

Tory club ban leaves bad odour

A Conservative club has banned one of its members for six months after complaints that his feet smell. The committee at March, Cambridgeshire, voted to suspend Tony Fisher, 58, for repeatedly refusing to keep his shoes and socks on. Mr Fisher says he went barefoot to relieve his gout. A club spokesman said: "The odour pervaded throughout the bar."



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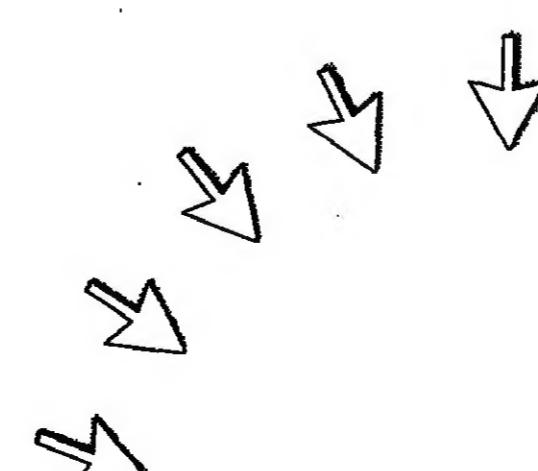
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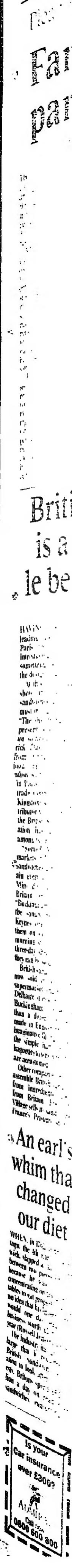
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THE TIMES TUESDAY OCTOBER 22 1996

Plea to catch youths who dropped concrete on car

Family of M3 victim beg parents to question sons

BY LIN JENKINS AND BILL FROST

THE parents of a man left critically ill when youths dropped a concrete block through his car windscreen from a motorway bridge appealed to other parents yesterday not to harbour those responsible.

After police said that the youths they were seeking could be as young as 13, Simon Willmott's mother asked parents to tell the police if they suspected their children were involved. Sandy Willmott said: "We want to speak to parents. You know the members of your household better than anyone. Since Simon was injured, whenever this must be frightened and showing some reaction."

"Parents, if you sense something is wrong, please probe. If you think anyone in your household was involved in this incident, we are appealing to you to do the right thing for all parents and ring the police. Whoever did this must be made aware that, in one moment of foolishness, they have affected not just Simon, but so many others." She

He managed to stop the car safely about 300 metres from



Simon Willmott is still unconscious in hospital

the bridge, but was unconscious by the time the first person got to him. His body had been crushed by the concrete block.

Half a dozen motorists have since told police about similar instances over the past weeks at the same spot. Detective Chief Inspector John James said it raised the possibility that the same group of youths had been responsible.

He described the three

wanted teenagers as being between 5ft 4in and 5ft 10in tall, with one markedly taller than the others. They were believed to be aged between 13 and 19, dressed in dark clothes, with short, possibly cropped hair, and were of a slim or medium build. They had been spotted several times between 6.45pm and 8pm on the night in question.

Mr James said that he also wanted to trace other witnesses, including two youths aged about 14, with fair hair, seen in Station Road, Hook, and another youth aged between 15 and 20, seen alone on the bridge. Police were making inquiries yesterday at those local schools not on half-term and were talking to residents of Odham and Hook.

Some in Odham, a wealthy town to the south of the M3, refused to believe that anyone from the area could have been responsible. As one woman put it: "Teenagers from some housing estates down the way in Basingstoke must have done this. In this part of the world, children are properly brought up, properly educated and properly disciplined."



Sandy and Alan Willmott yesterday: they asked suspicious parents to ring police

British sarnie is a must for le beau monde

FROM ROBIN YOUNG IN PARIS

HAVING taken over the leading fashion houses of Paris, the British are now introducing the French to something else they do better: the designer sandwich.

At this year's biggest food show in Europe, British sandwiches are the product most in vogue and discussed. "The chic thing in Paris at present is to be seen eating un sandwich anglais," Patrick Davis, head of Food from Britain, the British food promotion organisation, said at the SIAL show in Paris yesterday. With 130 trade exhibitors, the United Kingdom is third largest contributor to the exhibition and the British Sandwich Association has a leading role among the British stands.

Some 50 Monoprix supermarkets in Paris now receive sandwiches direct from Britain every day. Dominique Mine, director of Food from Britain in France, said: "Buckingham Foods make the sandwiches in Milton Keynes one day and have them on sale in Paris next morning still with a two or three-day shelf life in which they can be sold."

British sandwiches are also now sold in other French supermarket chains and in Delhaize stores in Belgium. Buckingham exports more than a dozen varieties, all made in English bread with imaginative fillings — unlike the simple ham or cheese baguettes to which the French are accustomed.

Other companies in France assemble British sandwiches from ingredients supplied from Britain. Fresh Food Village sells its sandwiches in France's Prisunic stores. A

company in Brittany packs English sandwiches in gas-flushed packets which give the product a shelf life of up to 14 days.

Peter Bartlett, managing director of Breadwinners, whose sandwiches sell in Tesco, Safeway and Harrods, said: "The principal problem at the moment is that the French cannot get their head around the idea of chilled fresh food delivered just in time for immediate consumption. They do not understand the logistics."

Mr Bartlett was, though, on the look-out for competent retailers who might take an interest in a cosmopolitan range of sandwiches, from roasted vegetables in focaccia to chicken and mixed leaves in a French baguette. Other recipes include Edam cheese and apple and mozzarella and sun-dried tomato paste, not forgetting BLT.

Most exotic of all is a Valentine Day sandwich with chocolate bread and a filling of mascarpone peach and passion fruit. There is even a surprise chocolate in the pack, as what the French would call a *bonne bouche*.

Two British bagel companies are also at the show, hoping to follow in the wake of the sandwiches' success — Ridles Bagel Company and Mr Bagel. "We are already exporting to Spain, Gibraltar and Greece," said Dave Nickisson, on the Mr Bagel stand. "The bagels already on the market are too hard and too chewy. Ours are soft and pliable, and we are introducing at this show a pizza bagel as a new product to add to our cinnamon and raisin and poppy-seed versions."



The first sandwich-man

billion a year from 8,000 outlets. A survey published last July disclosed that the Scots are particularly enthusiastic sandwich-eaters. The late Elvis Presley's gorgantuan sandwich concoctions are legendary.

However, the biggest sandwich ever made was created in Taipei. It was 2,000 ft long, with 1,320 lbs of bread and 3,080 lbs of filling.

Sandwiches call for care and hygienic handling. They are a magnet for bacteria. In 1994 there were 82,000 incidents of food poisoning reported to the Public Health Laboratory in Colindale, north London.

About one-third of the population eat a sandwich they have bought ready-made every day. Around 94 per cent admit to eating one at least once a month.

HOME NEWS 5

Good turn may rule out Varsity rugby blue

BY MICHAEL HORNELL

A CAMBRIDGE rugby blue could miss this year's Varsity match after his jaw was broken by a gang of youths when he and a friend intervened to protect a cyclist deliberately knocked off his bike.

Nick Holgate, a 15-stone prop forward, who has had a plate inserted in his jaw after a kick to the side of his head, said: "I've got a broken jaw, a black eye and some cuts. I wouldn't have minded if it had happened on the rugby pitch."

The injury to the third-year management studies student from Robinson College means that he cannot play rugby for six weeks — giving him only two weeks to get back in the team before the match in December. Mr Holgate, 21, said: "Competition for a place is very tough. I don't know if I'll be selected again. I've just got to try to keep fit."

Tony Rogers, Cambridge University coach, said the possibility of losing Mr Holgate was a disappointment but he had not completely ruled him out of contention.

Three youths have been arrested and released on police bail.

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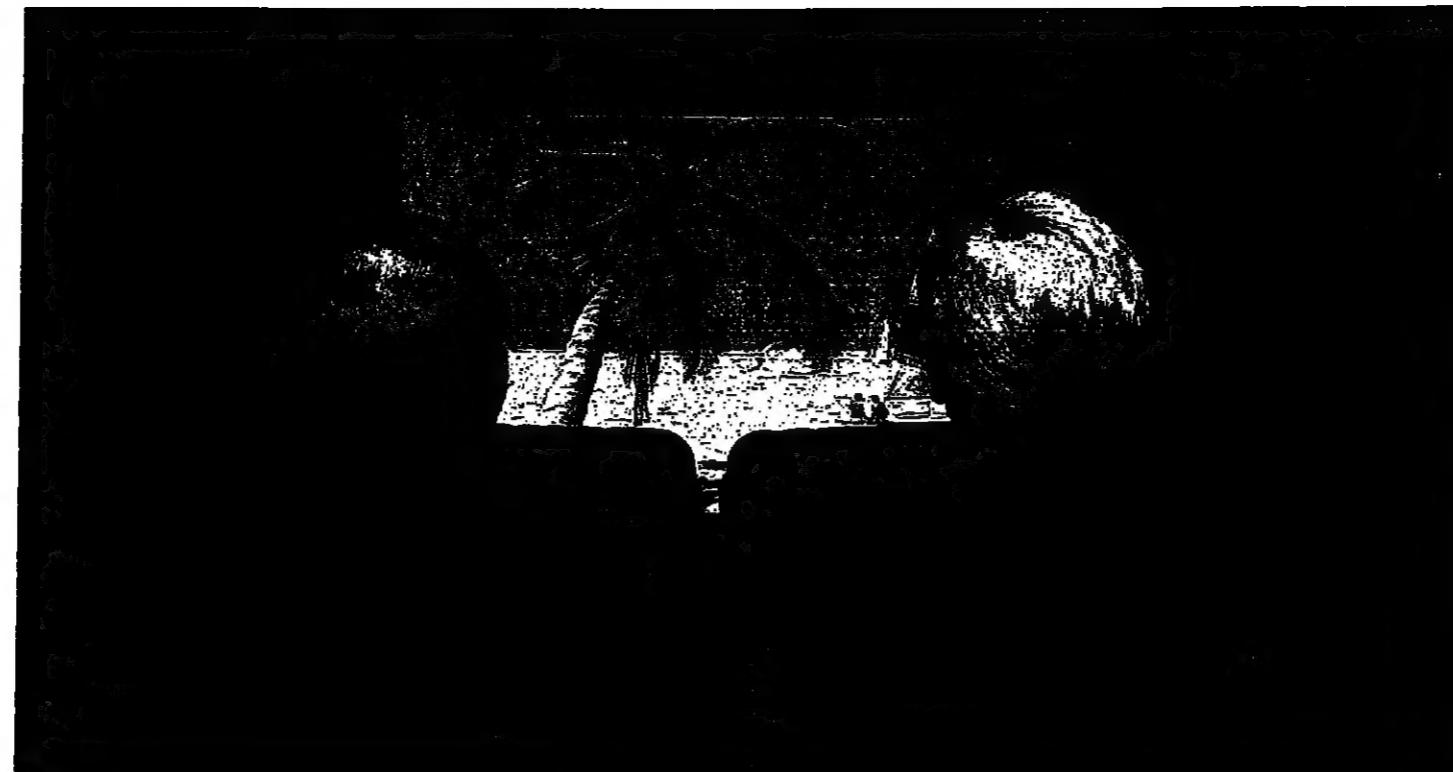
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Grassroots movement grows as the Government salutes courage of dead teacher's wife

Thousands back widow's call for good citizenship



Mrs Lawrence yesterday: she wants to "banish violence"

BY JOANNA BALE

THOUSANDS of people have backed Frances Lawrence's call for a national debate about ways of tackling violence and promoting good citizenship.

They expressed their support in telephone calls, faxes and letters to *The Times* and to Mrs Lawrence's home in Ealing, west London, over the past three days. Many were from concerned parents and teachers, whom Mrs Lawrence wants to see leading a nationwide grassroots movement "dedicated to healing our fractured society and banishing violence".

Lynne Drewett told how she set up a neighbourhood scheme in February to combat youth crime in

Swanscombe and Greenhithe near Dartford, Kent, after her 16-year-old son was arrested with other teenagers for a petty offence. She said: "We hope Mrs Lawrence will be an inspiration to others to do something in their area."

"As a parent I wanted to help my son and teenagers like him in a practical way. We spoke to youths on the streets and the police to find out why young people were turning to crime. We then organised a summer scheme for younger children to keep them occupied during the school holidays and a drop-in centre for older ones."

"Unfortunately, the drop-in centre was wrecked by the very teenagers it was meant for. We are finding it a struggle to get support

to continue so we welcome Mrs Lawrence's campaign. We hope that people will be encouraged to give practical and financial support to schemes like ours."

Jeanine Turner, a former teacher at an inner city school in Sheffield said that the problem of failing standards of discipline and morals in schools was partly due to the trend of older teachers being made redundant to make way for younger, cheaper staff. She suggested that one way of enhancing teachers' status — which Mrs Lawrence has called for — would be to keep older, more experienced staff.

She said: "There are few teachers in their fifties left with the expertise to encourage morality and family values in the classroom. People

from my generation want to do something to help but no one wants to employ us in any position of authority because we are considered too old. I hope Mrs Lawrence's campaign can change that so that people of all ages can work together to solve these problems."

Shirley Day of Bushey, Hertfordshire, said: "In recent years I have wracked my brains about what I can do to help solve the problems that Mrs Lawrence talks about. Sadly, with all her grief, she has got the opportunity now to do this."

"Every age group has its problems — all the decent things have fallen by the wayside. We all have something to learn from this and I would like to congratulate *The Times* for conveying it in such a

moving way." Margaret Morrissey of the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations said her members backed Mrs Lawrence's call for a ban on combat knives.

She said: "It would make sense whilst dealing with the gun laws to include knife laws. One wonders why this has not already been done. It would be naive to think that this would erase knives and guns from our streets but it must help."

The group also called for more government support for some of Mrs Lawrence's other aspirations, such as raising the status of police and teachers. Mrs Morrissey added: "Successive Secretaries of State and Ministers have and still do

criticise our teachers. It may not be their intention to lower the teachers' standing in the eyes of the public, but that is what happens. Sadly it will take more years to rebuild the status of our professional people than it took the Government to smash it."

Philip Shepherd of Imagine Nations United, a British-based international group which campaigns against violence, said: "Mrs Lawrence's initiative is a catalyst for the shift in attitudes which is so desperately needed."

He is organising a linking of hands from Edinburgh to London in May to express unity and sympathy for victims of violence, and to promote anti-violence initiatives among young people.

Shephard says crusade gives edge to plan to teach morality

BY DAVID CHARTER AND JILL SHERMAN

CITIZENSHIP lessons will be tried out in schools across the country as part of the Government's drive to promote values in the classroom, Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, said yesterday.

Mrs Shephard said she was inspired by the example of Frances Lawrence and wanted an agreed moral code adopted by schools.

Mrs Shephard said she would consider accelerating the work of the National Forum for Values in Education on preparing a code after speaking to the widow of Philip Lawrence, the headmaster stabbed to death as he intervened to protect a pupil attacked outside his school.

The forum was set up by the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority to consult widely on ten new "commandments" for the classroom and plans for citizenship lessons when the national curriculum is revised in 2000.

Mrs Shephard said: "I spoke to Mrs Lawrence on Saturday and I am well aware that she wants a debate and not a manifesto at this stage. We both know more than education is involved. SCAA will implement a two-year pilot of guidance materials in preparation for the next review of the curriculum. It seems to me a very great deal of the work of the authority answers a lot of the points raised by Mrs Lawrence and her debate will help give some urgency to its work. We will see whether we need to accelerate the work and there will be nothing placed in the way of the pilot."

Mrs Shephard and David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, appeared to try to outbid each other in their response to Mrs Lawrence's manifesto to curb violence in society. Mr Blunkett said that Labour would introduce classes in good citizenship as part of the national curriculum for primary and secondary schools.

He admitted that there were constraints in timetabling for the national curriculum, but that room should be found for civic lessons. Mr Blunkett said

the intention was "to ensure that the teaching of citizenship is central to the development of young people from the earliest possible moment". Aides said this would involve the teaching of old-fashioned "civics" — how society and government works — mixed with rights and responsibilities.

Children would be taught the basics of right and wrong and lessons could involve visits from local policemen, or other members of the local community, such as vicars. Mr Blunkett pointed out that the lessons would also fit in with Labour's plans for a

Mrs Shephard said she was "very impressed" with Mrs Lawrence. "What a brave person. I imagine this is all bringing it back hideously and I hope it is helping her cope at this time. She is amazing".

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said all teachers would fully support Mrs Lawrence's message, but he called for schools to take their own stand against insdiscipline by expelling children who broke codes of behaviour.

He said: "I believe the time for firm action is long overdue.

Schools must show by example that serious disruption and violence simply will not be tolerated." It was no accident, Mr de Gruchy said, that Philip Lawrence had found it necessary to expel 60 pupils during his brief time at St George's School, Maida Vale, west London. Others should follow his example.

Parents, as well as schools, needed to play their part and a Good Parenting Agency should be established. "A Good Parenting Agency could be charged with going out into the community to contact families and try to show them by example how their own interests would be better served by more positive and active parenting," he said.

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said that as far as head teachers were concerned Mrs Lawrence was "pushing an open door".

The SCAA will begin consultation next month on a moral code centred around four key values: those related

national citizens' service for young people who had left school. They would help with keeping the environment clean and other community duties, such as helping the disabled and elderly.

Labour also plans to address Mrs Lawrence's specific call for improvements in teaching. Mr Blunkett has set out a series of proposals which includes the sacking of bad teachers, improving the quality of teacher-training and introducing a probationary year for new teachers.

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to the self, to relationships, to society and to the environment. A statement about what these values mean and how pupils can demonstrate them would form the basis of citizenship lessons, delivered through guided debate.

The authority will also propose community service for all youngsters, such as helping the elderly. Trainee teachers will be given more instruction in religious and secular moral traditions.

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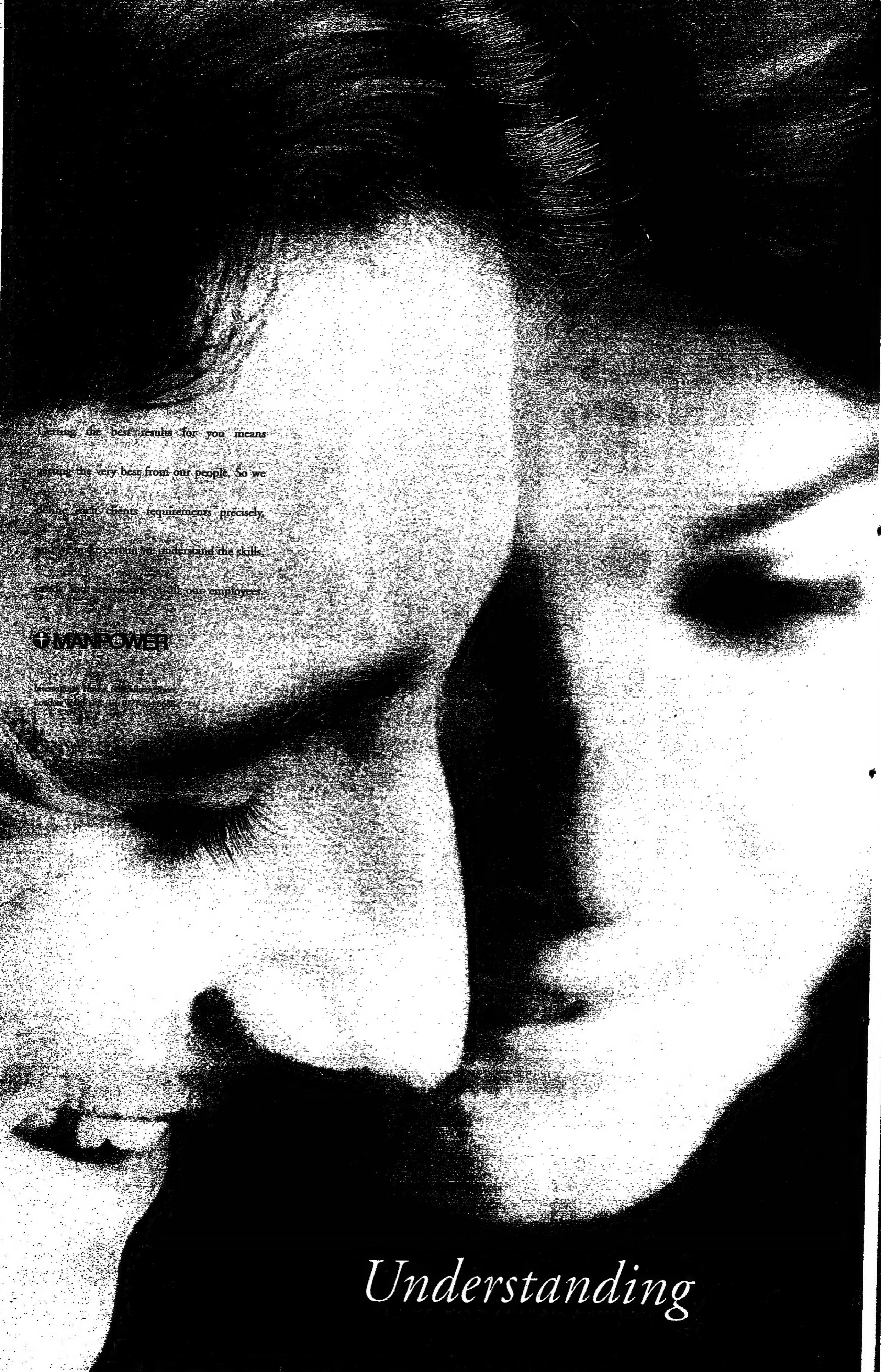
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Nature group seeks protection for harmless giant facing extinction in British waters

Oriental appetite for fins threatens the basking shark

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

SOARING demand for shark fins used in oriental cooking has led to a steep rise in the global price and fears that the basking shark could become extinct in British waters.

Government wildlife advisers are trying to have *Cetorhinus maximus* listed as a protected species amid fears that fishermen desperate to make a living as traditional fish stocks fall will target the shark to supply the lucrative Far Eastern trade.

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), with backing from groups including the Marine Conservation Society, is urging the Government to list the shark under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. It would make the basking shark, whose numbers have been falling worldwide, the first shark to be protected by British law. The price of

the delicacy has almost doubled to more than £28 a kilogram in just four years as demand has soared and sharks in some Far Eastern waters have been fished to the brink of extinction. Sam Pollard of the Marine Conservation Society said yesterday: "We need to act now before the price goes through the roof."

The main threat facing basking sharks in this country is from Norwegian fishermen. They have a European Commission-approved quota to harpoon 300 basking sharks a year in British waters. In return, British fishermen have the right to catch a quota of white fish in Norwegian waters. Dr Clare Eno, of the marine section of the JNCC, described the size of the shark quota as "outrageous ... and unsustainable". One British fisherman, based on the

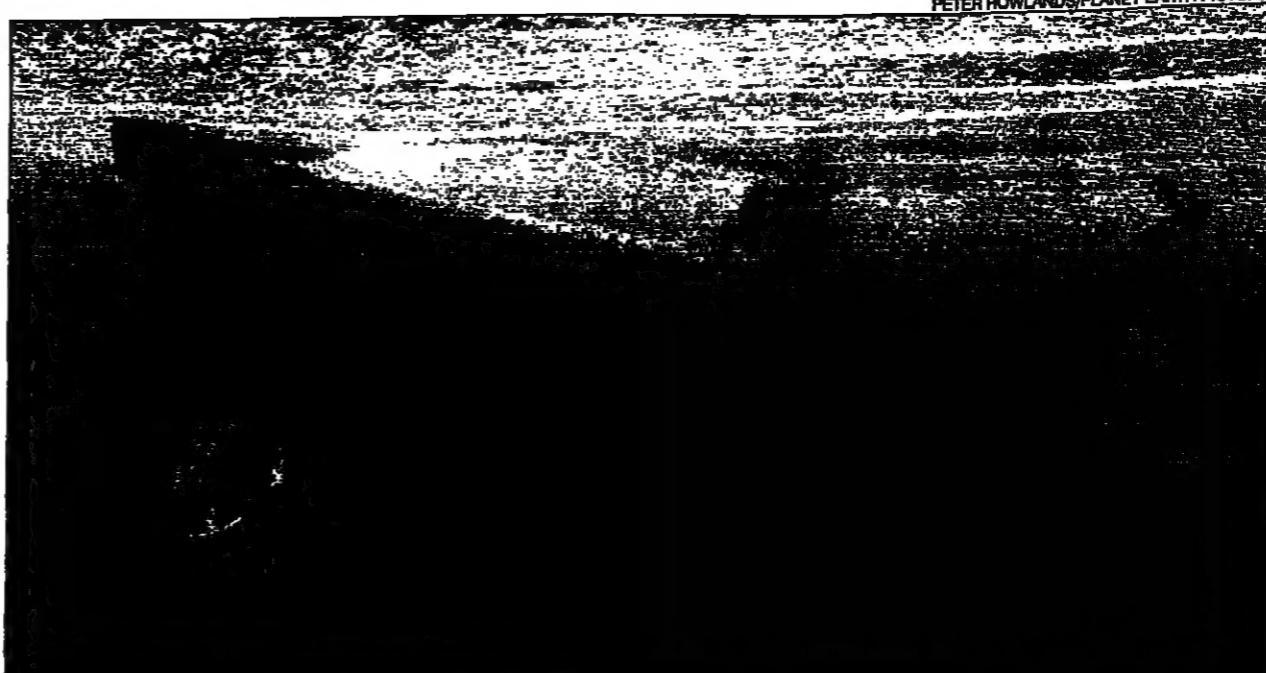
Clyde, fished basking sharks but his boat was recently decommissioned. Nevertheless the experts fear that fishermen here could resume catching basking sharks at any time as the stocks of more traditional species are squeezed by overfishing and a cut in EC quotas.

"Given the state of the fishing fleet, you only need a few collapses of stocks before people might start turning to shark fins. Once that happens you will never get it stopped and the population would soon be devastated," Dr Eno said.

There is also evidence that basking sharks — at 45ft the second largest fish after the whale shark, but harmless to man — are being harassed and killed for fun in British waters. Last year a shoal sighted in Carlyon Bay, Corn-

wall, was chased by power boats and jet skiers. There were several cases of basking sharks being found dead off the Welsh and southwest English coasts with deep cuts on their heads, thought to have been caused by boat hooks used to kill the animals and tow them alongside before being dumped.

The legal listing, which has



A basking shark feeding on plankton: harmless to man, there is evidence that it is being harassed off our shores

been proposed to John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, would make it illegal to hunt, harass or deliberately injure a basking shark. Dr Eno said it was the first step to getting protection for the shark across European waters.

A meeting in Birmingham later this week, organised by the Sea Life Centres, will set

up a European Elasmobranch [the class of fish including sharks] Society to further the cause of sharks generally and the basking shark in particular.

The Department of the Environment said: "We would hope to bring in an amendment to the Act in the spring.

There is a groundswell of opinion in favour of listing the

basking shark." A spokesman said the views of the Scottish Office would be crucial to securing the go-ahead. A few years ago it blocked a similar move, upholding fishermen's rights over conservation interests.

A few weeks ago the basking shark was listed as vulnerable by the World Conservation Union.

Blind give their eye teeth for new sight

By NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

A SURGEON plans to give a new twist to the old adage, an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. He aims to renew the sight of two blind patients by transplanting modified teeth into their eyes.

Christopher Liu, a consultant ophthalmic surgeon at the Sussex Eye Hospital in Brighton, said the technique involved removing a tooth from the patient, drilling a hole through it and using it to support a plastic lens. The operation is suitable for patients who have damaged corneas but who are unsuitable for corneal transplants.

The tooth is removed from the patient together with a piece of bone. It is shaped to provide a rectangular base, and drilled. The modified tooth, holding the plastic window, is inserted for at least two months into an incision made in the cheek just below the eye.

"This is to allow it to recover from the shock and make sure that all is well," Mr Liu said. The modified tooth is then placed in the eye after room has been made by removing the existing lens and some internal structures.

NEWS IN BRIEF

'SAS man' escapes charges over book

A bestselling author who admitted his book about an SAS death squad in Ulster was fiction will not be prosecuted for wasting police time. Paul Inman, of Weston-super-Mare, Avon, was arrested by murder squad detectives after he claimed in *The Nemesis File*, written under the name Paul Bruce, he was part of a gang that killed at least 30 IRA Catholics.

Group 4 deal

Group 4 has won a £49 million contract to ferry inmates to court from 16 prisons in the North of England. The contract, for seven years, is expected to save the taxpayer £2.5 million a year. The Prison Service said the bid "represented the best combination of service and value for money".

Walker dead

A walker who disappeared in the Austrian Alps in June has been found dead by a hunter. Chris Broome, a sound engineer from Oxfordshire, had been on a hiking trip. He is believed to have strayed from a mountain path and fallen 50 metres into a gully. An inquest will be held in Britain.

Bridlepath ban

Conservationists have won a five-year fight to ban four-wheel drive vehicles from a bridleway in Glerton, Cambridgeshire, in John Major's Huntingdon constituency. After four public inquiries and a High Court hearing the Environment Department has agreed it should not be a byway.

School eviction

A former nursing sister at Harrow School has failed to halt her eviction from the flat she shares with her husband at the school. Marilyn and Roy Edey had asked the Court of Appeal to block a possession order until after her unfair dismissal case in the High Court was heard.

Goalposts death

Emma Barter, 2, died in hospital after a set of goalposts fell on her as she played with friends on a playing field in Ipswich, Suffolk. The children had gone to the field in the dark after a football match while the teams were preparing for a social evening.

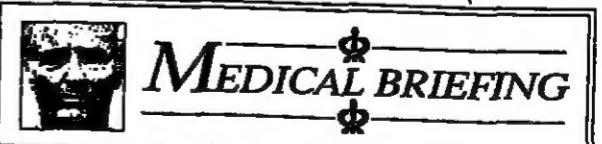
Parent power

Parents of pupils at Cheltenham College have called a meeting with members of the school's governing body to demand the reinstatement of the headmaster, Peter Wilkes, 55, who was forced to resign when the school slipped in the examination league tables.



The Duke of Edinburgh after his recent surgery

The outdoor life leaves its mark



THE skin of the Duke of Edinburgh's nose, before his recent surgery, would have made an excellent topic for discussion on a teaching ward round.

Changes in the skin can affect any part of an adult's body at any time, but are particularly common in fair-skinned people who have been exposed to the sun. The skin of the face and forearms is particularly vulnerable to skin cancers.

Because they wear skirts, women may have suspicious lesions on their lower legs. The Duke's case illustrates all the risk factors: he is fair-skinned, lives an outdoor life and served in the Navy in the Mediterranean and the Far East, where the sun reflected off the sea is particularly damaging.

Most skin lesions removed are benign — as is assumed to be the case with the Duke's. Even in most of those cases in which lesions are dangerous, the malignancy is of a low order. If there is any doubt, an area is removed for study.

Basal cell carcinomas,

known as rodent ulcers, are common around the face. Sometimes they appear as a small scaly red ulcer that won't heal; at other times like a pearly seed buried in the skin. They never spread to distant parts of the body. If they are carefully excised, the cure is complete. If they are allowed to grow, it can be impossible to remove them, and they can eat away the face.

Epitheliomas, the standard skin cancers that appear in the skin of people subjected to too much sun, are usually caught at a very early stage and normally respond to non-surgical treatment.

A malignant melanoma — a cancerous mole — is highly lethal if neglected. Patients and doctors look for changes in size and colour of the mole, an irregular outline and a patchy uneven colour. Later, the mole may ulcerate, bleed, itch or become very raised.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFFORD

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Chancellor signals millennial ambitions as party rewards him with collective embrace

Kohl's people champion cause of common man

FROM ROGER BOYES
IN BONN

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, yesterday shrugged aside his Government's serious financial crisis and declared European monetary union and a more politically integrated continent to be within reach. "Ladies and gentlemen, we will do it!" he bellowed to the applause of almost one thousand Christian Democratic delegates at the party conference.

Outside the Congress Centre in Hanover several hundred farmers hurled rotten apples at Jochen Borchert, the Agriculture Minister, and demanded a more active German policy on "mad cow disease".

"We expect you to speak up more strongly for our interests in Brussels," came the megaphoned demand from Wilhelm Niemeyer, Lower Saxony farmers' leader.

Inside, the delegates were not so much concerned with debate as polishing a monument. There was not a rotted apple in sight. Herr Kohl, party leader for 23 years, was elected again with the kind of majority that would have made Enver Hoxha, the former Albanian dictator, proud.

On October 31, the Chancellor will overtake Konrad Adenauer and become the longest-serving German leader this century, and so the party conference has become, even more than usual, a kind of collective embrace.

BONN: German women were targeted by Helmut Kohl yesterday as the Chancellor, his popularity on the wane, tried to convince them that his Christian Democratic Party was not a closed club of blue-suited scolds (Roger Boyes writes).

"We are not a macho party," he said before the CDU dutifully voted at its annual conference to reserve 30 per cent of its posts for women, enabling more to enter parliament. At present they make up 25 per cent of the 700,000-strong party membership, but only 15 per cent of its deputies.

The move — it failed to get through last year — aims to show Herr Kohl as a moderniser and to win back those scared away by welfare cuts. But his party still lags behind the Greens — with a 50 per cent quota — and the Social Democrats, who reserve 40 per cent of their offices for women and have pledged that 40 per cent of elected posts will be allotted to them by 1998.

"It is the magic of kinship," said a starry-eyed young delegate from the east as Herr Kohl waded through the crowds on way to lunch.

The adulation of the conference is not reflected in the Chancellor's popularity in the country at large. A weekend opinion poll showed that in terms of personal popularity the Chancellor is only three points ahead of Gerhard Schröder, his likely Social Democratic challenger, and that his coalition is more dependent than ever on the survival of his junior coalition partner, the Free Democrats.

The Christian Democrats are under criticism for allowing an unpopular "solidarity" tax to stay in place. Over the past week the Free Democrats have lost their image as a tax-cutting party.

The Chancellor thus devoted an unusually large chunk of his speech to swearing

loyalty to the junior party. He gave a broad hint that the Christian Democrats should do all they can to support the Free Democrats.

"Every partner has to ensure the success of the other in a coalition government," he said. That meant clearly identifying the enemy — a potential Social Democrat-Green coalition — and fortifying the centre ground.

"We must stay firmly in the centre, rejecting extremes from right and from left, and also rejecting radical solutions," he said.

Thatcherism was out, he emphasised. "We are the party of the social market." Combating unemployment was the primary goal. The Christian Democrats had to present themselves, like the British Conservatives, as the party of the common man. Wealthy tax dodgers had to be pursued and the party had to set the tone for the country, claiming the moral high ground and stamping out corruption.

There was no avoiding a future European currency. "Peace and freedom are the priorities for the next century — and I say this again even though it has been deliberately misconstrued abroad — but, I warn you, peace and freedom do not come free, even for Germans."

The price of European security was European monetary union and a more efficient, better integrated Europe that was capable, for example, of fighting organised crime and



Helmut Kohl addresses the Christian Democratic party convention yesterday

drug mafias. "Since my first European summit in Copenhagen in December 1992, I have heard again and again that this will never happen," Herr Kohl said. However, during the last Dublin summit, he had sensed a

"psychological breakthrough" and a deeply integrated union was now "irrevocable". Plainly the party wanted a commitment from the Chancellor that he would stand for re-election in October 1998.

He did not do so, but hinted

that he would still be there when Germany staged the Expo 2000 exhibition. The whole millennial context of the Christian Democratic conference suggested that the Chancellor would still be at his helm in four years' time.

'Aids cure' scientist may face charges

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN PARIS

A FRENCH medical researcher, whose "miracle drug" was allegedly used to treat the late François Mitterrand for cancer, has been placed under formal legal investigation on charges of illegally manufacturing medicine.

Mirko Beljanski, 73, a molecular biologist and former researcher at the prestigious Pasteur Institute, is the central figure in a bitter medical dispute in France, where he is regarded as a life-saving medical genius by some and a dangerous quack by others.

In 1989 Professor Beljanski, who was born in Yugoslavia and is not a medical doctor, claimed to have discovered an anti-viral treatment for cancer and Aids which he called BP100. The treatment was never officially authorised, but hundreds of cancer and Aids sufferers obtained the drug through various channels now under investigation.

One of Mitterrand's doctors prescribed BP100 for his prostate cancer, according to numerous French press reports which have never been denied by the former President's entourage. In 1994 the professor was found guilty of illegally practising medicine and the French Health Ministry formally banned his products. But Professor Beljanski allegedly continued to sell BP100 "under the table, convinced of the effectiveness of his discovery," according to *Le Figaro*.

Earlier this month police raided his laboratory after the legal authorities renewed charges of "illegally practising pharmacy and medicine" and launched a fresh assault on Professor Beljanski's network.

The French Association for Aids Research has conducted a rigorous examination of BP100, the precise ingredients of which are secret, and concluded that the medicine has no specific anti-viral effect. But an estimated 1,000 people in France are currently undergoing treatment with BP100. The pills cost around Fr.1,500 (£189) a month.

Professor Beljanski claims he is the victim of an economic conspiracy. "The big pharmaceutical laboratories wanted to hold on to their markets," he said recently.

Former anti-Yeltsin plotter in landslide poll victory

FROM RICHARD BEESTON
IN MOSCOW

GENERAL ALEKSANDR RUTSKOI, one of President Yeltsin's most implacable enemies, staged a remarkable comeback yesterday when he scored a landslide victory in an election race for a powerful regional governorship.

General Rutsikoi, who led the bloody uprising against the Kremlin leader in October 1993, won 79 per cent of the votes for the Kursk region, a rich agricultural area 300 miles south of Moscow. Vasili Shuteyev, the Kremlin-backed in-

cumbent, was roundly defeated, scoring only 18 per cent.

The victory automatically gives General Rutsikoi a seat in the Federation Council, the upper house of parliament, and could catapult the mustachioed former fighter pilot back into the frontline of the opposition ranks.

"It is a serious defeat for democracy," said Sergei Belyayev, the head of the pro-government Our Home Is Russia faction in the Duma, the lower house of parliament.

General Rutsikoi, who grew up in Kursk, first came to prominence in 1991 when President Yeltsin chose

him as his running-mate in Russia's first presidential elections.

However, relations between the two men quickly deteriorated as the former Afghan war hero sided with the hardline opposition against the Kremlin leader. The conflict came to a bloody end in October 1993 when General Rutsikoi led the uprising against the Kremlin which responded by shelling the White House and arresting the leaders of the revolt.

General Rutsikoi was jailed for several months and finally amnestied by parliament. He had operated in relative obscurity with-

in the Communist-led opposition until his victory yesterday. The win was particularly impressive since the local authorities had attempted to prevent him standing and he was only registered late last week, leaving him 36 hours to campaign.

The setback in Kursk was compounded by defeats for two other pro-Yeltsin governors, in the Baltic enclave of Kaliningrad and the central Russian region of Kirov.

Vyacheslav Nikonov, who helped engineer President Yeltsin's re-election victory this summer, is now one of the main campaign organisers for the regional polls, predicted that the Kursk result could change the face of opposition politics in Russia.

Rutsikoi did not have a political platform before today, now he has a governorship and a seat in parliament," said Mr Nikonov. "He could become a major force in the opposition, perhaps even its future leader."

Ever since the defeat of Genadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader who came second in last summer's presidential race, the nationalist and left-wing opposition groups have been looking for a more charismatic figure to back.



Rutsikoi: elected as governor with 79 per cent of the vote

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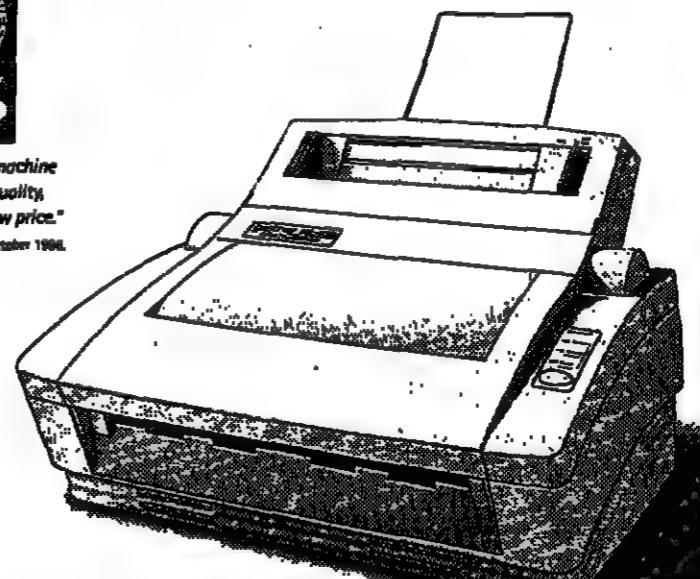
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Chirac will address the Palestinian legislature

Israelis frosty to Chirac

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN JERUSALEM

JACQUES CHIRAC, the French President, arrived in Israel yesterday to a hostile reception from many right-wing supporters of the Government who dismissed him as a blatantly pro-Arab politician who had in the past sanctioned the sale of a nuclear reactor to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

The official reception was correct but cool, with members of the Cabinet ruling out any question of the European Union dispatching its own Middle East envoy, as M Chirac had earlier advocated.

"We reject it completely," David Levy, the Foreign Minister, said.

Among those boycotting sections of M Chirac's two-day stay was Uzi Landau, chairman of the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee, and a member of the ruling Likud party.

"The French President is hostile to Israel," he declared. "He is a prominent pro-Arab statesman, who called Saddam Hussein the Arab de Gaulle."

M Chirac's last-minute decision to reverse his earlier refusal to visit the Knesset — although he will not speak there — when tomorrow he will become the first foreign head of state to address the 68-year Palestinian legislature in Ramallah, failed to mollify many Israelis.

Moshe Peled, the Deputy Education Minister, announced that he would walk out of the Knesset plenum the moment that M Chirac took his seat in protest against what he claimed was a slight both to the parliament and to the state of Israel.

Jailed star witness says First Lady to be indicted

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

IN HIS first interview from a prison cell, the Arkansas banker who helped to convict three former associates of President Clinton and his wife Hillary, claimed yesterday that the First Lady faced certain indictment after the American elections.

David Hale, the star prosecution witness in the Whitewater hearings and a former Arkansas political insider, said it was a "certainty" that Mrs Clinton would be charged by Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, once the cloud of partisan politics had lifted after the polls in November. Mr Clinton could also face charges.

"I can tell you that Hillary is going to be indicted on 13 to 18 counts involving obstruction of justice, lying to federal investigators, and misleading federal regulators," Hale told *The Wall Street Journal*, the Clintons' journalistic nemesis. "I believe some of the charges will relate to obstruction at the White House."

Hale, who is serving a 28-month sentence, predicted that Mr Clinton subsequently would immediately pardon both his wife and Jim Guy Tucker, the Arkansas Governor convicted on Whitewater charges.

Prosecutors are investigating the so-called Castle-Grande deal in which Madison Guaranty, the bank at the heart of Whitewater, is said to have made loans to Seth Ward, Mr Ward's son-in-law. Webster Hubbell, was a Clinton law partner who is now languishing in prison for fraud.

Hale said Mrs Clinton, Mr Ward and Jim McDougal, the owner of Madison who has also been found guilty of fraud, all conspired to mislead federal regulators in the deal. He said Mr McDougal, whose sentencing has been delayed until after the elections and who is said to be co-operating with the Whitewater inquiry, has very significant information to offer about these transactions.

would not be granted an amnesty, the former banker said. The only witness to have claimed first-hand knowledge of the President's involvement in any crime, Hale has alleged that Mr Clinton put pressure on him to make a \$300,000 (£188,000) loan to Mrs McDougal in 1983. The White House has consistently described the allegation as a "bunch of bull".

Hale is still viewed as a credible witness in many quarters. In more than two years as a co-operative witness he has spent hundreds of hours with Mr Starr and his colleagues and is thought to know much about their evidence.

His statements appear to confirm a web of deceit that clung to the Clintons in Arkansas and followed them through the early years in Washington. He described the First Couple as the Harry and Harriet Houdini of American politics, a pair of master escape artists.

Hale claimed that Mrs Clinton, as a lawyer in Arkansas, drafted a document that was used to deceive bank inspectors and divert a payment of \$300,000 to one of her partner's relatives.

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Hillary Clinton, accused by Hale of conspiring to deceive bank inspectors

Dole urges funding ban

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

BOB DOLE, the Republican candidate for the US presidency, has called for a fundamental overhaul of the American system of financing election campaigns — including a ban on donations from companies, unions, wealthy individuals and foreigners.

His move came in the wake of disclosures that the Democrats had taken \$700,000 (£440,000) in contributions from Indonesian and Korean companies. John Huang, the party fund-raiser responsible for the contributions, was removed from his duties on Friday while the foreign don-

tions are investigated; some have been returned.

Democrats have replied that Mr Dole is an unlikely champion of electoral reform, having raised more than \$100 million in his political lifetime from the donors he now criticises. They also note that the Republican Party has returned a \$15,000 donation from a Canadian company.

The vulnerability of both parties to these charges emphasises why Mr Dole's move will have widespread appeal. Spending by both parties in this election, the most expensive in US history, has prompted accusations that campaign finance rules, drawn up two decades ago after Watergate, are blatantly flouted.

The Washington Post has called the present system a "charade" and a "fig leaf", and claimed both candidates have made "a final mockery of the campaign laws". Common Cause, a pressure group, has asked Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, to appoint an independent counsel to investigate spending by both the Dole and Clinton teams, and mount criminal prosecutions for any violations.

Hunt vote threatens Wild West lifestyle

FROM QUENTIN LETTS
IN NEW YORK

THE old Wild West trapper of popular imagination, with coyote fur cap, toothless grin and bloody mitt, may find his way of life changed for good after the US election.

Animal rights protesters have succeeded in placing anti-field sports motions before the electorates of several states on November 5. Voters in Colorado, Idaho, Washington, Michigan, Oregon and Massachusetts will all have the chance to express their preferences on certain types of hunting at the same time as choosing between Bill Clinton and Robert Dole.

The motions represent a threat to a cherished way of life in the American West, where hundreds of thousands of people are preparing for the start of the season this coming weekend.

Jim Posewitz, 61, a Montana wildlife authority, yesterday admitted that field sports fans in the US need to arm themselves politically speaking.

"These votes will be a good wake-up call for us," said Mr Posewitz.

"Hunting in America has no regard for social status or wealth," said Mr Posewitz.

"Wildlife belongs to everyone, regardless of land ownership."

The hunting vote concentrates on rural pursuits which hunters know can be hard to defend in front of city dwellers trapping, poisoning and bear-baiting. The proposers of the votes argue that these practices are cruel. Farmers reply that traps are often the only way of protecting livestock from attacks by cougar, lynx and coyote. They add that wild animals such as the beaver, while photogenic, can cause widespread natural damage unless numbers are checked.

Mr Posewitz says that going out to hunt for supper is still widespread in his home state of Montana. "Half the households around here have a hunter," he said. "In my family of four, 80 per cent of our meat is wild. I get two deer, one elk and one antelope a year, and that pretty much does us, apart from a few chickens we buy."

Belgians hold more protests

Brussels: Thousands protested again yesterday over official bungling in Belgium's child murder case as the Government began drafting reforms, including an end to the appointment of judges based on party allegiance (Charles Bremner writes).

In half a dozen towns, people stopped work in anger over "state indifference" to a paedophile ring said to have been led by Marc Dutroux. The protests, which were small in comparison with Sunday's "White March" in Brussels, signal continuing anger over what the political establishment concedes is a failure of the country's institutions.

Leading article, page 19

Ortega defiant

Arnoldo Aleman of the Liberal Party Alliance claimed victory in Nicaragua's presidential election as early results showed him well ahead. But Sandinista rival Daniel Ortega refused to concede.

Mayor killed

Paris: Ali Boucetta, the Mayor of Algiers, was reported to have died in the Algerian capital, apparently hit by a stray bullet from a gun battle between Muslim guerrillas and security forces. (Reuters)

Nobel ban

Manila: José Ramos Horta, the East Timor Nobel Prize winner, will be barred from the Philippines during next month's summit of Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation leaders, a Manila official said.

Landsbergis win

Vilnius: Vytautas Landsbergis, the Lithuanian independence leader rejected in 1992, has made a comeback. His Homeland Union claimed 26 per cent, with a third of Sunday's votes counted. (Reuters)

Fugitive shot

Athens: Pavlos Kermidis, 37, one of Greece's most wanted criminals, died in a hail of gunfire when he tried to throw a grenade at police who cornered him in a hospital emergency room here. (AP)

Cathy waves goodbye to water retention

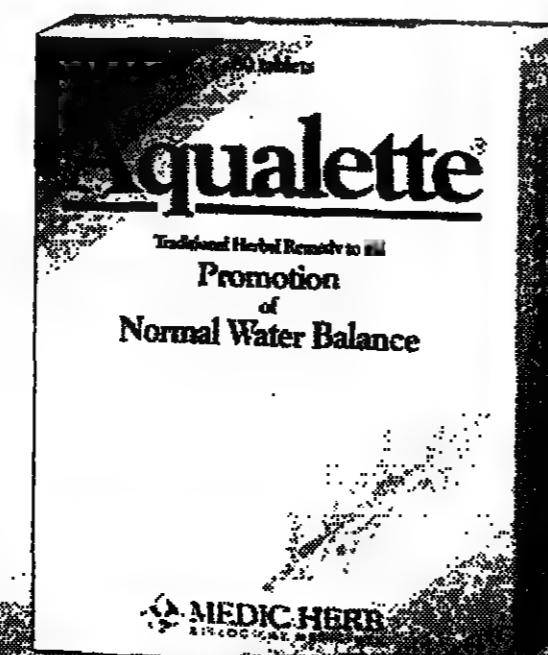
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TIMES 22/10

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War fears grow as Rwandan troops attack Hutu camps

FROM SAM KILEY IN KIGALI

HUNDREDS of thousands of Hutu refugees yesterday fled their camps in Zaire after attacks by Rwanda's army and Zairean Tutsi warriors.

The Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Army and their tribal allies in Zaire also fought with Zairean soldiers in battles that threaten to plunge the region into full-scale war.

Western diplomatic and intelligence sources confirmed yesterday that Rwandan troops had crossed into Zaire north of Goma and south of Bukavu at the weekend and attacked Rwandan Hutus who have lived in eastern Zaire since 1994.

At least 220,000 Hutus from camps on the Ruzizi River plain near Uvira have formed a vast flood of human misery and yesterday afternoon were marching towards the Zairean lakeside town of Bukavu.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was desperately trying to move aid workers from their Uvira homes. The foreign staff had been trapped for several days by fighting between the Hutus — backed by the Zairean Army — and Tutsis. On Sunday refugees were forced on to the Uvira air strip by their own leaders to



FROM FRANCESCO BONGARRA IN CALTAGLIETTA AND RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

A FORMER Mafia "boss of bosses", once nicknamed "The Beast" for his record of sadistic cruelty, went on trial in Sicily yesterday for the murder of Paolo Borsellino, the anti-Mafia judge blown up with five bodyguards in July 1992.

Salvatore "Toto" Riina, who has been in custody since January 1993, was charged with 17 other *mafiosi*. He sat alone in one of the cages used for Mafia trials in the purpose-built, high-security Caltanissetta courtroom, wearing a dark grey suit.

Riina, who has already received nine life sentences, spoke briefly to his defence lawyer but made no attempt to communicate with the other defendants in nearby cages. The opening of the trial was attended by relatives of the policemen killed with Judge Borsellino who, at the time of his death in 1992, had just taken over as chief anti-Mafia prosecutor from

Judge Giovanni Falcone, also murdered by the Mafia.

The two killings deeply shocked the nation, and Riina, betrayed by his own driver, was caught in a massive crackdown. Italians discovered that the legendary *capo dei capi*, who had evaded capture for 20 years, was a squat man in his sixties with the build and hands of a peasant from the Corleone hills.

Yesterday magistrates said Brusca's evidence was "dubious". He had accused Mafia members of crimes they could not have committed and, in some cases, his evidence had contradicted testimony of his younger brother, Enzo.

The trial comes after disclosures by a Mafia *pentito* or "supergrass", Vincenzo Scarantino, who admitted placing explosives in Judge Borsellino's car. He named Riina as the mastermind. It coincides with growing doubts over

the value of evidence from the L200 Italian Mafia *pentiti*, including Giovanni Brusca, Riina's successor as *capo dei capi*. Brusca — like Riina from the Corleone clan — was arrested in May after six years on the run. During the summer, with the power of the Mafia crumbling, it emerged that he had turned state witness.

Yesterday magistrates said Brusca's evidence was "dubious". He had accused Mafia members of crimes they could not have committed and, in some cases, his evidence had contradicted testimony of his younger brother, Enzo.

Giulio Andreotti, the former Prime Minister whose trial for alleged Mafia links is largely based on *pentito* evidence, said the growing doubt cast on Brusca's reliability showed he and other "supergrasses" could not be trusted.

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Japanese coalition prospects brighten

FROM ROBERT WHITMANT IN TOKYO

Zairean Tutsis who have lived there for 200 years. With the apparent backing of Rwanda, the Tutsis fought back at the weekend, sparking the mass Hutu exodus.

Yesterday officials from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees were bracing themselves for an influx back into Rwanda. "If the camps around Goma [North of Lake Kivu] go the same way as those in Uvira, then we're going to have a nightmare on our hands," said one senior UNHCR official.

Meanwhile, Western ambassadors in Kigali, Rwanda's capital, were anxious to persuade the Government to pull its commandos out of the area to prevent an escalation into war with Zaire.

However, Rwanda's military spokesman denied any Rwandan soldiers had taken part in attacks on Hutu camps or the Zairean Army.

However, Takako Doi, leader of the SDP (long known as the Socialist Party of Japan) had earlier said her party would not renew its alliance with the conservatives. The partnership had destroyed its credibility, with Social Democrats winning only 15 seats against 30 in the last parliament. The Sakigake, an LDP splinter group,

did even worse, reduced from nine to two seats.

While Mr Hashimoto told journalists he would not rule out drawing on the support of other groups, it emerged that his aides had discreetly sounded out ten potential defectors from the main opposition Shinshinto Party.

Later one of the Prime Min-

ister's colleagues predicted that more than a dozen members of Shinshinto would return to their old home in the LDP.

The Shinshinto, an uneasy mix including LDP renegades like its leader, Ichiro Ozawa, and politicians linked to the lay Buddhist cult Soka Gakkai, fared

poorly, falling from 160 to 156 seats. Pressure on Mr Ozawa to step down may intensify, all the more likely if Mr Hashimoto — Mr Ozawa's arch-rival — wins over disgruntled members as partners in his Government. Analysts say it is only a matter of time before the fragmentation of Shinshinto.

Mr Hashimoto, 59, may also lure the Democratic Party, formed a month ago, into an alliance if the terms are right. At a press conference Mr Hashimoto said he would honour his campaign pledge of whittling down Japan's bloated bureaucracy.

Leading article, page 19



Ryutaro Hashimoto arrives yesterday at LDP headquarters where a poster proclaims his openness to change

Police insist de Klerk knew of apartheid-era atrocities

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

FIVE former South African security policemen suggested yesterday that F.W. de Klerk, the former President, had lied when he claimed recently that apartheid atrocities had never been authorised by his Government.

In an opening statement to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, read by their lawyer, the five said they "seriously doubted" the National Party leader's claims before the commission that he had been unaware of government-authorised murder, tor-

ture and assaults. They went on to call on the previous Government to admit authorising unlawful actions.

In a statement coloured by Afrikaans poetry and quotes from speeches, the policemen denied they were criminals and said the killing of more than 40 people was to defend the Nationalist Government.

The case is regarded as the most significant so far heard by the commission, set up to investigate abuses under apartheid, offer reparations to victims and grant amnesty to perpetrators.

The men, who include a brigadier and colonel, have



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£17,500	£95.55	£199.03	£240.27	£379.79
£15,000	£96.01	£169.74	£205.99	£325.54
£10,000	£102.67	£113.16	£137.30	£217.03
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SkyePharma agrees deal on new drug

BY PAUL DURMAN

SKYEOPHARMA, the fledgling drugs company headed by Ian Gowrie Smith, has agreed a deal that will secure rights to its most important product to date.

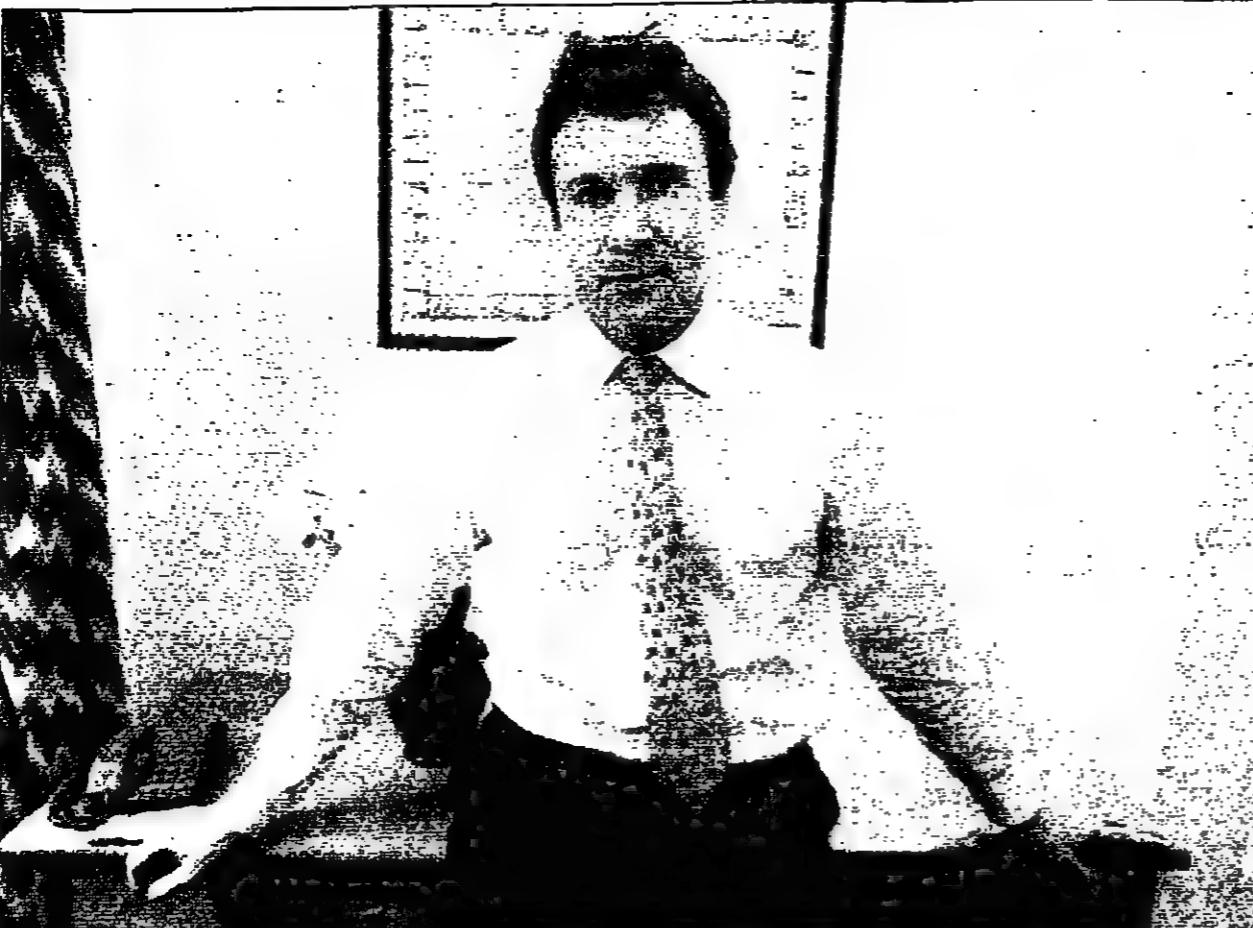
The deal, with two US drug companies, could produce substantial profits for SkyePharma from 1999 onwards. The British company will receive 41 per cent of the income from sales of a new treatment for angina and hypertension.

The new drug is a "bio-equivalent" version of Procardia XL, an off-patent Pfizer drug with sales approaching \$2 billion a year.

SkyePharma has signed a letter of intent to take over rights to the drug previously held by Gensis, a Californian company. Gensis, previously a high-flier, is trying to conserve its cash resources after the failure in late-stage trials of a cardiovascular drug.

SkyePharma expects to spend about \$10 million completing the development of the drug in collaboration with Boehringer Mannheim, a Maryland drugs company and Gensis's former partner. SkyePharma will pay Gensis a 10 per cent royalty on sales that it is hoped will run into hundreds of millions of dollars.

SkyePharma and Boehringer Mannheim intend to apply to register the drug with the US Food and Drug Administration next year. The US authorities are keen to encourage the switch to cheaper generic drugs. Shares in SkyePharma rose 6p to 83p.



Ian Gowrie Smith hopes that the treatment will yield substantial profits for SkyePharma from 1999 onwards

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buy	Bank Sell
Australia \$	2.09 1.93	18.74
Bahraini Dinar	18.24	18.74
Bangladeshi Taka	2.95	46.16
Canada \$	2.261	2.081
Cyprus Cypriot £	0.7771	0.7221
Denmark Krone	9.916	9.18
Egyptian Pounds	7.50	7.20
France Fr	8.87	8.02
Germany Dm	2.604	2.384
Greece Dr	3.86	3.71
Hong Kong \$	10.93	11.53
Iceland	1.15	1.05
Ireland £	1.043	0.989
Italy Lira	5.80	4.98
Japan Yen	163.50	177.90
Malta £	0.818	0.568
New Zealand \$	2.00	2.00
New York \$	2.32	2.17
Norway Kr	10.92	10.18
Portugal Esc	258.00	239.50
South Africa Rand	7.55	7.05
Spain Pta	212.50	198.50
Sweden Kr	11.20	10.40
Switzerland Fr	2.150	1.970
Taiwan New Taiwan \$	16.00	14.00
USA \$	1.686	1.656

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Economy ripe for tax rise, says forecaster

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

STRENGTHENING consumer spending and a public deficit that is yet again overshooting forecasts by the Government mean that taxes ought to be raised rather than lowered, according to Oxford Economic Forecasting.

Oxford is predicting that consumer spending will rise by 3 per cent this year and by 3.75 per cent in 1997, fuelled by tax cuts, low interest rates, rising household wealth and windfalls from building society mergers. And consumer spending will largely be responsible for overall growth of 2.4 per cent this year, accelerating to 3.5 per cent in 1997.

This, says Oxford Economic Forecasting, makes it very difficult to justify tax cuts in next month's Budget although

it believes that the Chancellor will nevertheless offer modest reductions of between £2 billion and £3 billion, matched by spending cuts.

The Chancellor should instead be tightening fiscal policy in order to allow interest rates to remain low and so encourage investment. The economy is overly dependent on the consumer, Oxford Economic Forecasting adds.

Although investment appears to have risen at an annualised rate of 6.6 per cent in the first half of this year, the forecaster says that this figure needs to be interpreted cautiously. It notes that virtually all of the rise in investment recorded in the second quarter was due to one-off purchases of aircraft and that manufac-

turing investment fell by 4.7 per cent in the second quarter after a 4.2 per cent drop in the first. Despite optimism on consumer spending, it emphasises that a replay of the 1980s boom is unlikely. It notes that the "feel-good" factor is still being undermined by job insecurity and that the ratio of debt to income is still close to its peak.

The latest European Commission Confidence Survey compiled by GfK shows, if anything, a slight weakening of consumer confidence in October from September. Its confidence index slid back to minus two, from minus one. However, this is still strongly up on a year ago when the index stood at minus eight.

David Walker, Associate Director of GfK, said that a more detailed breakdown shows that the greatest rise in confidence has been in the South with the reading moving from minus six a year ago to plus one in October.

In terms of age groups, the biggest improvement came in the 50 to 64 category, with a reading of minus 12 improving to minus four. Of the four income categories that GfK analysed, the biggest improvement in confidence came in those households with annual income of between £7,000 and £14,499. The index in this category rose from minus 11 a year ago to minus one in October.

Janet Bush, page 31

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CHANGING TIMES

Prince set to pay £350m for Princess hotels

FROM RICHARD THOMSON

IN NEW YORK

PRINCE al-Waleed bin Talal, the Saudi Arabian investor, is poised to buy the luxury Princess hotel chain from Lonrho for about £350 million.

"I will be the sole owner of the Princess hotels," the prince told *Al-Hayat*, a Saudi newspaper. He said he had been given the "sole negotiating right" to bid for the hotels. Other potential buyers appear to have dropped out as Dieter Bock, chief executive of Lonrho, travelled to Riyadh last week to push ahead with the negotiations, which are expected to be completed in the next ten days.

Prince Waleed is already a substantial investor in hotels. There are eight Princess hotels around the Caribbean, in Bermuda, Barbados and the Bahamas, as well as in Mexico, and Palm Springs and Scottsdale in the US.

The prince said he would sell the casinos operated by the Princess hotels and get his 50 per cent-owned Fairmont Hotel Management company to manage the chain.

Mr Bock originally proposed to float the Princess hotels and the UK-based Metropole chain on the London Stock Exchange earlier this year. However, the issue was abandoned in August when individual buyers emerged who were likely to offer more than the share offering would have raised.

Stakis, the UK casino and hotel operator, is interested in the five Metropole hotels, thought to be worth around £300 million.

The hotel sales would be a major step in Mr Bock's campaign to restructure Lonrho. The attractiveness of the hotels to potential buyers was helped by a 71 per cent rise in operating profits to \$66.7 million last year.

The Princess hotels will add to Prince Waleed's increasingly diverse portfolio of international investments, which include a stake in Canary Wharf and in Cimcorp, the US banking group, as well as EuroDisney and Saks Fifth Avenue, the upmarket New York clothes store.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Japanese shares hit by election result

JAPANESE shares slid sharply, while government bonds surged to a record high yesterday after Sunday's general election, which left the pro-business Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) without a clear majority. The Nikkei 225 average fell 309.35 points, or 1.43 per cent, to close at 21,302.95 in subdued trading. The dollar rose briefly to a high of 112.89 yen, its strongest since January 1994, before easing slightly. In the bond market, the key December Japanese government bond (JGB) futures contract responded to the poor showing of the Shinshinto, or New Frontier Party, by surging to 123.70 yen, an all-time high for any benchmark, before ending with hefty gains.

Market operators are concerned that yet another unwieldy coalition government could lead to friction over policies and impede Japan's already sluggish economic recovery. Foreign exchange dealers agreed that the make-up of the coalition was likely to make the most difference in the long run.

Oil companies ahead

THREE American oil companies enjoyed a jump in third-quarter earnings, helped by strong production and higher oil and natural gas prices that more than offset weakness in refining operations. Texaco said net earnings jumped 50 per cent, Chevron Corp reported a 29 per cent increase excluding special items and Exxon Corp, the largest US oil company, said profits rose 4 per cent. The results were in line with or slightly better than expectations on Wall Street. But Mobil said net earnings fell to \$769 million from \$786 million, hurt by weak refining and marketing results.

Nabisco advances 17%

RJR Nabisco, the tobacco and food company, reported a 17 per cent rise in third-quarter profits and forecast continued strong results. The company earned \$216 million in the three months to September 30, compared with \$185 million in the third quarter of the previous year, when its results were reduced by hefty payments for early retirement of debt and preferred dividends. Revenues rose 7 per cent to \$4.3 billion, from \$4.1 billion. Worldwide tobacco sales rose 5 per cent to \$2.11 billion, while cigarette volume gained 4 per cent.

Aberdeen fights back

ABERDEEN Steak Houses, the restaurants chain severely affected by the BSE scare, said yesterday that there had been a steady recovery in demand for beef products. The company incurred losses of £722,000 before tax in the half-year June 30, against profits of £242,000 previously, but said it expected to earn a profit for the year as a whole. Second-half results will be assisted by a contribution from two new restaurants near Victoria station, central London. Refurbishment of a third London branch at Regent Street will be completed for Christmas. The loss per share was 4.6p (0.6p earnings).

Goodyear increases

GOODYEAR, the US tyre and rubber producer, announced third-quarter net income of \$170.2 million, an increase of 8.1 per cent from \$157.5 million in the third quarter of the previous year. However, sales fell to \$3.27 billion from \$3.31 billion. The company said that revenues were affected by lower sales of original equipment tyres in North America, competitive pricing pressures and a strengthening of the dollar. For the nine months, net income increased 9.7 per cent to \$509.9 million from \$464.6 million.

Optimism on US jobs

NEARLY half the large and mid-sized companies in the United States plan to create jobs over the next 12 months, the American Management Association reported yesterday. The AMA said that a survey of 1,441 companies showed that in the 12 months to June, 68 per cent added new jobs to their payrolls, compared with 58 per cent in the previous period, suggesting the average workforce grew 6 per cent, up from 4.5 per cent. Over the next year, 46 per cent of the companies surveyed intend to add jobs.

Moulinex confirms cuts

MOULINEX, the French electrical appliance company, yesterday confirmed it planned to cut jobs by 22 per cent but would try to avoid layoffs by introducing flexible schedules and reorganising manufacturing activities. After a stormy meeting with staff representatives, Moulinex confirmed the broad outlines of a plan announced in June for 2,600 job cuts, including 2,100 in France, and the closure of two French plants. In June, the company reported a loss for 1995/96 of FFr702 million, its fourth consecutive annual loss.

US fibre network plan

FRONTIER CORPORATION, the American telecommunications company, plans to build a \$2 billion fibre-optic network across the United States in partnership with the private Qwest Communications. Frontier is to invest almost \$500 million in the project. Lucent Technologies will supply the cable for what Frontier says will be the largest single US fibre-optic network built as one project. The network will connect almost 100 cities and provide coast-to-coast connection when it is completed in 1998.

New Euro Disney post

PHILIPPE BOURGUIGNON, chairman since April 1993 of Euro Disney, the theme park and hotel group operator, is to take the new position of executive vice-president for Walt Disney Europe. In his expanded role, Mr Bourguignon will work with European heads of each of Disney's major operating units to boost Disney's businesses in Europe. Walt Disney Europe said: His primary responsibility will continue to be the Disneyland Paris resort, which posted a profit in 1995 after several years at the brink of bankruptcy.

Recovery may not stop BA from taking flight

USAir prepares to go solo

FROM RICHARD THOMSON

IN NEW YORK

USAIR, the airline that is 25 per cent owned by British Airways, almost doubled its earnings for the third quarter, continuing a recovery that began earlier this year.

Despite the improvement after years of losses, USAir is almost certain to sever its ties with BA if the British airline's proposed alliance with American Airways goes ahead. USAir has already filed a US court action demanding that BA sell its stake in the company and allow USAir to compete independently.

USAir reported a \$108 million profit for the quarter, but the final figure was reduced after \$41.1 million was set aside

to cover profit-sharing obligations. Stephen Wolf, chairman, said the airline industry benefited from good economic conditions, and that USAir's load factor — the percentage of each aircraft filled with passengers — had risen slightly to around 70 per cent.

However, USAir continues to have the highest cost base of any US airline and its failure to reduce the high wages of its staff is causing shareholders to worry. Warren Buffett, the stock market investor, is trying to sell his 10 per cent stake, which is now worth substantially less than the \$358 million he paid for it. But USAir's stronger financial performance means that it is able to pay Mr Buffett and BA \$40 million in previously unpaid dividends that were suspended when the company was incurring losses. USAir's ability to pay the back dividend may make it easier for Mr Buffet to find a buyer for his stake in the next few months.

USAir also expects British Airways to sell its stake once it completes its merger with American. The deal depends on US and UK government agreement on an "open skies" policy, which would give the carriers greater access to each other's airports.

A link with American would give BA a stronger US presence than partnership with USAir. "We can't be part of that alliance," said Rick Weintraub, a USAir spokesman. "We don't have the anti-trust immunity to do so, so we must be allowed to compete on our own."

Deutsche Telekom's easy lesson Will the Chancellor do his cut-price duty? Out of Africa with Algy Cluff

THE Germans may be rather better at making cars or kitchens, but by jingo, we can give them a few lessons in flogging off the family silver. The Deutsche Telekom float is heavily modelled on the huge British privatisations of the past decade, one of the first of which was our own dear BT in 1984.

The parallels with BT are even stronger, because DT is being sold into a similar maelstrom of uncertainty. BT shares have underperformed the market since 1993 because of a harsh regulatory regime designed to allow competitors to take a larger share of the market. Germany may shortly also have to open up its wholesale phone market to competition.

The risk-averse Germans, with bitter memories of the war and before, have never been keen on equities. Smaller investors go for bonds, certain the Bundesbank will safeguard their value by keeping inflation low and the mark high. Real money goes into property. There are several reasons why this should change. Like France, Germany suffers from having a mass of unmodernised middle-ranking companies, the so-called *Mittelstand*, generally family-controlled and preferring to stay that way and shunning equity capital. Modernisation will require outside investors to come

in. Second, chronic pensions underfunding will require a higher-risk, higher-return approach to investment for old age in future, which means equities.

The British approach to privatisation is to undervalue the shares from the outset and add a few bells and whistles in the form of huge dividends to persuade in the private punter, who gets priority anyway. This deprives the institutions and makes them chase the shares in the after-market, so ensuring a healthy premium in first trading.

DT's advisers have not so much taken a leaf out of this book, they have borrowed the whole library. The shares, at the top of their indicative price range, offer a gross yield approaching 6 per cent, and there are additional discounts to private investors. The price should rise by as much as 30 per cent on the first day of dealing.

The company will make up 5 per cent of the German share index. "Anyone found by their investors to have missed it will be nailed to the wall," said one Frankfurt fund manager. This is the classic self-fulfilling proph-

ecy, and DT shares are the closest thing yet to a certain profit, an even better bet short term than those earlier British privatisations.

But this will tempt some private investors to sell and bank the cost of next year's holiday early. The price may not hold; it all depends on the legal moves by competitors in Brussels and how well they can be resisted. For investors outside Germany, the value of their investment can only be protected if the German authorities can be persuaded to drag their feet and keep DT in the dark ages. Hardly *worsprung durch technik*, is it?

Will liquid assets help canny Ken?

IT IS hard to imagine any politician could be so cynical as to cut taxes deliberately so close to an election in an attempt to sway the opinions of the electorate, and even harder to believe the electorate would fall for it. But it is whispered that Kenneth Clarke might be contemplating so monstrous an

PENNINGTON



action in next month's Budget. Nothing significant, not income tax cuts, of course — they are already in the bag. A penny off to 23p in the pound, appears to be the general reckoning, and it could hardly be much less than that could it? No, the tax cuts being whispered are off the price of liquor, what used to be called the working man's pint and must in these times also take in the odd glass of Chardonnay for his boss. Some in the drinks industry believe Mr Clarke might be tempted to cut a couple of pence off each, in the hope that the resulting tide of public euphoria might be enough to sweep him back to Number 11.

The City doesn't believe this, and a weekend study by UBS,

the broker, forecast increases on beer and wine in line with inflation. If Mr Clarke does decide to cut duty, it will have had little to do with the ritual pre-Budget submissions from the drinks lobby. Yesterday was Trafalgar Day, and a scattering of pubs across the country with suitably patriotic names were offering beer at prices available in France, where duty is 26p a pint less. As part of the same last-minute lobbying, the Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association is to see the Chancellor this week. The same argument will be trotted out about the costs to jobs of the cross-Channel booze cruise and the iniquities of being able to buy lousy French beer for less than good British ale.

No one in the drinks industry seriously believes the Chancellor will see the light and allow duty to fall to Continental levels overnight — the health lobby would never stand for it, for one thing. The industry every year merely hoped to limit the upward rise in duty and a standstill, as in 1995, generally counts as a victory. The decision to cut a penny off a pint, as an example,

would take about £100 million off tax revenues. If and when they come to buy your vote, at least you know now what it is worth.

Algy on the joys of Zaire

IF timing is all, then Algy Cluff's timing could not have been worse. Yesterday his Cluff Mining, for reasons that are not entirely clear, arranged a briefing for City fund managers and analysts about the joys of investing in Zaire. A couple of days previously, this huge state in western Africa, rich in terms of mineral wealth and poor even by African standards, had seen the outbreak of civil war.

Visiting the UK and talking to the City was the Prime Minister, Kengo wa Dondo. He is not to be confused with President Mobutu, currently in Switzerland, convenient for him should he ever wish to count those numbered accounts, even if the state of his health is uncertain.

In a recent study on parts of the world where inward investment is endangered by corruption

tion or high credit risk, Zaire failed even to make the list. There is not enough business there. The country is the original kleptocracy, where corruption, embezzlement and theft are the normal methods for the exchange of goods. Outside firms forced to work there tell tales of illegal dealing on the currency markets to ensure their workforce can be paid at all, such is the chaos in the banking system. And don't even try to use the telephones.

Free elections are promised next year, which is when free elections take place in Zaire — always next year. Someone, somehow, is going to find a way of liberating the enormous wealth of countries like Zaire without too much of it sticking to the local *apparatchiks*. But one feels it may not be Algy Cluff.

Wages of fear

PROPOSALS to make "ageism" an offence would seem to miss the point. There is little use in creating yet another segment of aggrieved litigants to clog up industrial tribunals. The usual reason older employees are discriminated against or replaced with their younger equivalents is simple. Having mortgages, children and other encumbrances, they are more likely to demand a living wage.



Rufus Bond Gunning, left, and Richard Williams, finance director, have pushed the button for a £22 million placing

Provend to make market debut

BY FRASER NELSON

PROVEND, one of Britain's largest vending machine companies, is coming to the Stock Exchange in a placing that is expected to value the firm at £22 million.

Rufus Bond Gunning, the managing director, said that the company hopes to raise £10 million from the flotation in order to reduce debt and fuel its acquisition power. He added that Provend had been approached by smaller companies and was already in the process of making a medium-sized acquisition.

Formed from a buyout from Sketchley in 1991, Provend now runs 15,000 vending machines across the country, 7,000 of which are also under further contracts for cleaning and filling. It also runs a range of

Greycoat attacks 'crazy' sale plan

BY PAUL DURMAN

GREYCOAT, the property company under attack from one of its largest shareholders, said yesterday that it was "crazy" to suggest selling off its £500 million portfolio of central London properties.

Funds managed by Brian Myerson's Active Value Advisors are pressing Greycoat to sell its portfolio of investments — effectively winding up the company. Greycoat was forced yesterday to call an extraordinary meeting, which is likely to be held late next month, to allow shareholders to debate this proposal.

Peter Thornton, Greycoat's managing director, said the threat from Active Value was "an unwelcome and costly distraction". He added: "It's crazy to start talking about what will effectively be a fire sale of our properties in a rising market."

Active Value, which controls 10.6 per cent of Greycoat, is unhappy that the property company's shares trade at a discount of more than 20 per cent to their net asset value. Mr Myerson, a Greycoat director until March, is unconvinced by development plans and wants Greycoat to take advantage of the improving property market to unlock value for shareholders.

Mr Thornton said that Mr Myerson, unlike other shareholders, was only interested in short-term performance. "He's not a property guy... he's making a criticism about something that he does not understand." He also suggested that one reason for the large share price discount was that Active Value was regarded as a keen seller.

Tempo, page 30

Happy £90m return for Birthdays group

BY FRASER NELSON

RON WOOD, a former audit clerk who founded the Birthdays greeting card business, has sold his company to a buyer in a team backed by Schroders and Prudential for £90 million.

Mr Wood, who set up Ron Wood Greeting Cards Holdings in 1969, gained £45 million from selling the bulk of his majority stake, and has agreed to reinvest £15 million of the proceeds for a 30 per cent share in the new company.

Bryan Robson, the former Manchester United player, was one of the original shareholders in the company, and is understood to have sold his 2

per cent stake. It would have been worth £1.8 million.

Schroder Ventures and Prudential Venture Managers have invested £15 million each in the buyout, and will share a 55 per cent share in the new company. It will be renamed Birthdays, after the brand name of the cards.

The company, based in Bury, Manchester, owns 330 shops and runs 50 franchise outlets. Over the last 25 years, it has become the market leader in greeting cards, giftwraps and tags. It also houses a wholesale division, which supplies confectioners, tobacconists and newsagents. In the year to end-June 1996,

the company's operating profits were £11 million on turnover of £99.3 million.

The buyout team is led by John Lovering, who resigned as chief operating officer of Tarmac last year to pursue a £400 million buyout bid for the company's housebuilding division. The offer, also backed by Schroders and Prudential, was eventually beaten by Winphey in a straight asset swap. Since then, Mr Lovering, who was also a former finance director of Sears, has been living in The Netherlands and looking to join another management buyout. He was recommended by Schroders for the job, and

will now return to Britain to work full time as Birthdays' executive chairman.

Mr Wood will remain as a consultant to the company, but has resigned from the board. The remainder of its management structure will remain intact, and a commercial director will be recruited.

Mr Lovering said yesterday

that he hopes to open up to 150 more outlets in the UK. He believed that Mr Robson, now manager of Middlesbrough, became involved with the company after getting to know Mr Wood in Manchester.

Schroders hopes to float the company on the stock market in less than three years.

BP signs \$2.5bn deal in China

BP Chemicals has signed a \$2.5 billion joint venture agreement with Shanghai Petrochemical Co to produce ethylene in China.

The agreement represents the largest commitment made by BP in China and will be formed on an equity basis, with BP providing cash and technology and SPC contributing existing chemical plants.

John Browne, chief executive of BP, said yesterday: "This venture will bring enduring benefits to China as well as deepening BP's position as a significant investor in one of the world's most dynamic economies." The project will have capacity to produce 650,000 tonnes of ethylene a year.

SPC is China's largest single petrochemical enterprise and the country's ninth largest industrial concern. It is also China's largest stock available for foreign investment, with a market capitalisation of about \$2 billion.

News Corp condemns raid

BY OUR BUSINESS STAFF

THE News Corporation yesterday moved to criticise the Israeli income tax authorities after reports at the weekend that the offices of News Datacom Research Ltd, a subsidiary company of News Datacom Ltd, had been raided.

News Corp, the owner of both companies and the parent company of *The Times*, said it had been assured as recently as three weeks ago by

the public and extreme action undertaken on October 20, 1996," said the statement. Neither NDRL nor its parent has produced cumulative operating profits prior to its financial year ending on June 30 so there was no question of tax evasion.

News Corp believes the investigation is being driven by an ex-employee and says it has "nothing to hide".

Upton's first profit since 1989

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

UPTON & SOUTHERN, the Teesside department stores group, yesterday reported its first profit since 1989.

The company, which put the Reject Shop into receivership last year, made a pre-tax profit of £307,000 on sales of £8.95 million, in the year to July 27. Last year, it made a loss of £9.59 million on sales of £30.4 million. No dividend will be paid on the ordinary shares.

Upton's, whose chairman is Ronald Trenter, bought the

Reject Shop for £2.3 million in 1994 and put it into receivership 15 months later, after ringfencing its department stores.

The group's E Upton & Sons division, which operates three department stores and three smaller stores in the North East of England, had a like-for-like sales increase of 5.6 per cent during the year. In the first 11 weeks of the current year, like-for-like sales are 13 per cent ahead on the same time last year.

Trenter: back in the black

Freedom of pension information

for every one of your employees

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STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Wall St leads London to another record close

FUELLED BY another record-breaking run on Wall Street, share prices on the London stock market rose to their highest levels ever.

The FT-SE 100 index closed just a shade below its best of the day with a rise of 20 points at 4,073.1 as turnover reached 613 million shares.

Brokers said the market's resilience was attributable to events on Wall Street where the Dow Jones recovered an early fall last night to race ahead on the back of trading news from IBM.

The market's continuing strength confounded many of the pessimists who have been predicting a collapse coinciding with Friday's ninth anniversary of the 1987 crash.

Economists like Richard Jeffrey at Charterhouse Tilney concede that the index looks a bit giddy every time it climbs above 4,000 and that inflationary pressures are growing, but he sees no reason for another crash.

Pearson touched 744p on mounting speculation that it could soon find itself on the receiving end of a bid from BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*. But Sam Chisholm, BSkyB's chief executive, denied the story: "There are no talks taking place between News Corporation, BSkyB or any associated company about a bid for Pearson".

This statement took some of the shine off the Pearson rise, but still the price closed 331p higher at 730p.

Brokers in the Square Mile are convinced Marjorie Scardino, the new chief executive, will have to act fast and restructure Pearson's vast array of interests if she wants to prevent a break-up bid at some stage. At these levels, Pearson, whose interests range from the *Financial Times*, Penguin Books, Madame Tussauds, Lazards Merchant Bank and Thames Television, carries a price tag of £3.9 billion.

Further activity on the trad-ed options market lifted takeover favourite Zeneca 331p to 17.58p. Talk that a line of stock is overhanging the market left BTR 61p down at 2541p.

Abbey National fell 5p to 604p as ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, urged clients to switch into National Westminster. 12p better at 721p. Stock shortages squeezed



Marjorie Scardino and Dennis Stevenson, deputy chairman of Pearson, 331p higher on bid speculation

Legal & General 91p higher at 3411p.

Oil companies continued to rise on the back of the strong price of crude oil world markets with BP up 9p at 6871p and Shell 12p to 101491p. Merrill Lynch, the broker, is bullish about the sector.

The high street retailers were being chased higher. The latest survey from Dun &

and DFS Furniture 3p to 5331p.

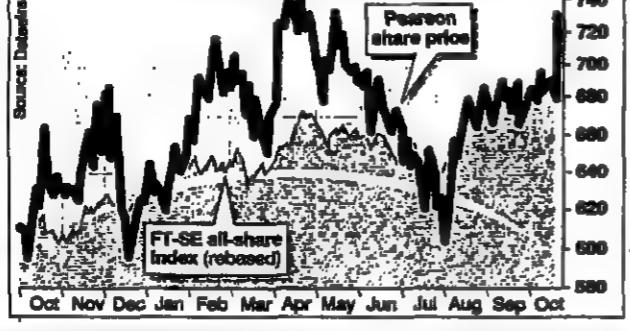
Strong & Fisher surged 8p to 201p in a thin market. **Hilldown Holdings**, the parent company which already owns 90.2 per cent of the equity, is offering 21p a share in cash for the rest. Hilldown finished 1p firmer at 1821p.

Shares in **Conrad**, the leisure and business support

Nynex CableComms, the communications specialist, firmed 1p to 96p as more than 4 million shares changed hands amid claims that a bid for the company is about to emerge. Its parent, Nynex, continues to hold 67 per cent of the shares. Only last month Nynex agreed a £15 billion merger with Bell Atlantic.

Bradstreet forecasts a buoyant time for retailers in the run-up to Christmas. NatWest Securities, the broker, has also emerged a switch from industrials into consumer stocks. Among the best gains were Next, up 181p at 585p. Dixons 8p to 5861p, Great Universal Stores 8p to 6341p. Marks & Spencer 51p to 5301p, Argos 5p to 7981p.

PEARSON: SHARES SUPPORTED BY RENEWED BID SPECULATION



Closing Prices Page 33

group, were suspended at 61p awaiting shareholder approval for a reorganisation. Reports at the weekend suggested the group, which owns Sir Bobby Charlton's football consultancy business, would be reversed into by Sheffield United, the First Division football club. Attempts earlier this year by Conrad to acquire Leeds United

ended in a £30 million deal failed.

Some upbeat comments from BWZ listed Grand Metropole 71p to 495p.

Vodafone, the mobile telephone operator, has now signed up one million customers to its digital network, lifting the total number of subscribers to 2.65 million. The shares firmed 1p to 2711p.

News of share sales by three directors left Time Products 17p lower at 3691p. Between them they unloaded a total of 803,982 shares at 366p with the chairman's family trusts selling a further 3.49 million shares at 366p.

Brandon Hire, the plant equipment group, tumbled 32p to 851p after saying that it may not match profit expectations.

A profits warning failed to budge Selector, which ended the session all-square at 64p.

Confirmation of improving margins at **Courtair Leisure**, lifted the shares 11p to 172p. Richard Capper, chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that trading and margins were up on last year. UBS, the broker, has been appointed financial adviser as the group prepares to move from the USM to the Alternative Investment Market.

Stirling Group has also appointed a new broker, Bell Lawrie White. The price finished 1p lighter at 4211p.

□ **GILT-EDGED:** The market showed signs of bounting out after last week's sharp falls. But investors proved reluctant to commit further funds ahead of this week's auctions. Later today the Bank of England is offering £2 billion of Treasury 7 per cent 2001 followed on Thursday by £1.5 billion of Treasury 8 per cent 2015. Brokers say the issue should be comfortably oversubscribed.

In futures, Treasury 8 per cent shed 31p at 1000p, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was a tick lower at 1003112.

□ **NEW YORK:** Earnings-driven rallies in IBM and major oil companies boosted shares on Wall Street, where at midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 21.24 points higher at 6,115.47.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent shed 32p at 1000p, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was a tick lower at 1003112.

□ **CALIFORNIA:** Earnings-driven rallies in IBM and major oil companies boosted shares on Wall Street, where at midday the Dow Jones

industrial average was 21.24 points higher at 6,115.47.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 61,154.7 (612.24)
S&P Composite 712.40 (+1.66)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 21,302.95 (-309.38)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng Closed

Amsterdam: EOE Index 592.43 (+1.92)

Sydney: ASX 2,963.2 (+6.2)

Frankfurt: DAX 7,729.03 (+5.79)

Singapore: Straits 2,044.33 (-20.29)

Brussels: General 1,015.86 (+70.34)

Paris: CAC-40 2,180.22 (+5.01)

Zurich: Swiss 769.70 (-3.93)

London: FT 100 2,670.1 (-4.42)

FT 300 4,072.1 (-4.69)

FTSE M40 250 4,449.4 (-4.27)

FTSE 250 2,022.1 (-7.48)

FTSE Eurostock 100 1,789.46 (+1.72)

FT All Share 1,994.54 (+2.09)

FT Non Financials 2,089.71 (+4.33)

FT Govt Secs 93.90 (+0.02)

FTSE 100 (offshore) 2,670.1 (-4.42)

ES-200 1,106.0

RPI 1,538.92 (2.16) Jan 1987=100

RPI 1,536.92 (2.94) Jan 1987=100

TEMPUS

Too much in the barrel

OIL COMPANY shares look expensive, buoyed by oil price expectations. Yesterday's results from the American oil majors ought to have given pause for thought, if only because the results were unexciting. Yet Wall Street was in jubilant mood, marking up oil stocks — and London followed suit.

Higher oil prices helped four US companies, Exxon, Texaco, Chevron and Mobil, to increase their upstream earnings but much of what they gained from selling expensive crude was lost in weak refining margins. Chevron's refining margin was almost halved from the previous quarter and results from BP and Shell next month should show a similar picture as the higher price of feedstocks cuts downstream profits.

BP is more geared to the price than Shell but the picture of a commodity price going

into orbit is misleading, as the Brent crude price is not the only benchmark. On the American west coast, prices in the third quarter for the local heavy oils were weak and that had an impact on Alaskan crude, whose price fell in the second quarter. BP is a major Alaskan producer and its third quarter earnings will reflect a mixture of higher Brent and lower Alaskan North Slope prices.

The bigger question is which way the market is heading. Logic dictates that in the absence of an outright war, the Iraqi factor should be discounted and oil prices should reflect fundamentals. These show strong world demand and low heating oil stocks but the expectation is that non-Opec oil production will rise strongly. The futures market is still betting on a \$20 oil price next year but a mild winter could easily put paid to that.

BURTON GROUP

BURTON is being coy about its plans in home shopping, doubtless for good commercial reasons. However, given that Burton is overwhelmedly a clothes retailer, it is safe to assume that it will promote Burton clothing brands by catalogue.

With that in mind, the acquisition of Racing Green makes more sense than its purchase of Innovations, a specialist in the sort of gadgets only ever found in catalogues.

Home shopping know-how is what Burton does, and Racing Green will help in setting up parallel catalogue businesses for Dorothy Perkins and Principles.

Also a high street retailer, Racing Green should fit well into the Burton stable. With only five shops, it has plenty of room to grow, backed up

by Burton's financial clout.

However, Burton did not pick up a bargain when it bought Racing Green, paying £19 million, more than the value of its turnover. That comes on top of the £45 million paid for Innovations, a deal which looks even more curious after Racing Green and the investment will not stop there. When

Burton sorts out its home shopping strategy, it will incur heavy start-up costs for warehousing, printing, distribution channels and more.

Home shopping is a winner in the long term. In the meantime Burton will have to invest heavily to build a catalogue business that will make a significant contribution.

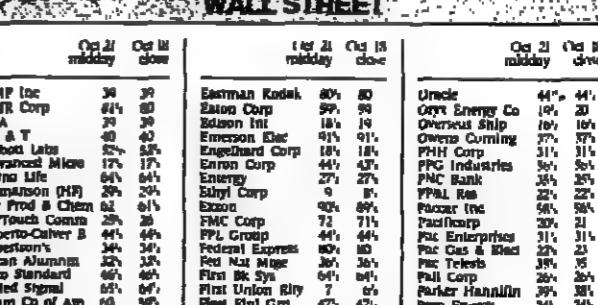
Unfortunately, the huge numbers don't mean huge revenue streams. Charging on the basis of a percentage of the portfolio, fees for custody might be as little as a fraction of a basis point. Hence the need for scale and Barclays, which is shedding less profitable business, may have decided the returns were inadequate. For Morgan Stanley, Barclays has a special attraction after the acquisition of the Wells Fargo fund management operation.

Morgan previously handled custody for Wells, a major fund manager, and a contract could be an important basis for a deal.

Greycat is perhaps not the most deserving case for Active Value's attention. Its performance since the rescue refinancing in late 1993 has been indifferent, though it has done badly against its sector over the last six months. With the property recovery looking increasingly well-founded, it seems a daft time to switch out of Greycat's prime "trophy" properties in the West End and into cash.

Even if its plans to sell-off all Greycat's property is defeated, the company's management will be keen to demonstrate that they are doing all in their power to produce better returns. Shareholders stand to gain either way.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED



Barclays

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EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

BOLTHOUSE

Australia 1,230.6 (-2.54)
Austria 10,400 (-0.101)
Belgium (Com) 31,655 (-1.36)
Canada 1,348.5 (-1,349)
Denmark 1,000 (-0.01)
Finland 1,000 (-0.01)
Germany 5,192.2 (-2.943)
Ireland 5,163.0 (-1.371)
Hong Kong 7,732.0 (-1,072)
Iceland 1,590.0 (-0.107)
Ireland 1,590.0 (-0.107)
Italy 1,590.0 (-0.107)
Malaysia 2,506.0 (-2.307)
Netherlands 1,732.0 (-1,725)
Norway 1,590.0 (-0.107)
Portugal 1,584.0 (-1.549)
Singapore 1,414.5 (-1.415)
Spain 1,392.2 (-2.32)
Sweden 6,100.0 (-0.625)
Switzerland 1,340.0 (-0.125)

United Kingdom 1,230.6 (-2.54)
United States 1,230.6 (-2.54)
Uruguay 1,230.6 (-2.54)
Venezuela 1,230.6 (-2.54)

WALL STREET

**THE
TIMES**
**CITY
DIARY**

**Green erases
Black memory**

DAVID KRANTZ, the owner of Racing Green, which yesterday announced it was being bought by Burton Group for £10 million, already had October 21 etched on his memory. On that day nine years ago, Blazer, the chain of menswear stores he had founded, was due to be floated. The intervention of Black Monday on October 19 put a stop to all that and sent nine months of planning down the drain.

Yesterday will be memorable for a much better reason — he gets £15 million from the sale of Racing Green, the home shopping company he set up after eventually selling Blazer for £5.4 million. He says he has now had enough of clothes retailing and sees himself setting up in restaurants or publishing. Will he make fortune number three?

Waist not

CUTTING a fine figure around town is Brian Taylor, ebullient chief executive of Wardle Stores, the parachutes and inflatable boats company. He has taken a leaf out of Nigel Lawson's book and lost five stone on a crash diet. He looks much happier than the former Chancellor. Now tipping the scales at around 13½ stone, he is confident he will not pile on the pounds again, despite his taste for the finer things in life. That may be just as well, for having lost almost 12 inches around his waist, he has thrown out an entire wardrobe of clothes.



"Harvey Nichols? You can't miss it — take the A1 to Pontefract then the M62 for Leeds"

Sporting chance
AN insurance policy was launched yesterday for executives who pay huge membership fees to exclusive sports and health clubs. The policy will pay subscription fees if you are injured and unable to use the facilities, or if you are unemployed. The policy is the idea of Lowndes Lambert, the insurance broker, after one of its development managers, Scott Ingham, suffered a back injury that put him out of action for a couple of months.

A CABBIE waiting outside the newly opened OXO Tower restaurant was asked who he was waiting for. The reply may come as a surprise for the chairman of English Heritage. "Dunno exactly mate, some woman called Sorely Stevens."

Tall order

BUSINESS folk in Harrogate this week for the annual Institute of Personnel and Development annual conference are in for a shock — a one-man show called "Tall, Dark, Handsome and No 1" that aims to provoke executives into thinking about the environmental, social and ethical challenges of business.

EMPLOYERS would be forgiven for a sudden jump in blood pressure over a new report on stress at work. Announcing the study, the Institute of Personnel and Development said that stress-related illness cost UK employers £9 billion. The figure should have been £7 billion.



Early warning: the Chancellor had a preview of the CBI's latest *Industrial Trends* survey before his weekend Budget strategy session

Clarke's dilemma: cut tax for votes or appease industry?

Philip Bassett explains why the Chancellor faces a difficult Budget decision next month

The CBI's survey looks generally more guarded than those from other business bodies, such as the Institute of Directors, British Chambers of Commerce, the Engineering Employers' Federation and the Building Employers' Confederation.

Taken together, the surveys show relative economic buoyancy, though couched with caution, and a considerable hope, that things will improve further. CBI leaders, for instance, will make it clear today that they believe that growth in the economy is there, is steady and is sustainable — providing the Government takes no risks with it in the Budget. Chambers of Commerce also emphasise the steadiness of output and orders rising.

The CBI's survey will be broadly in line with the improving mood of similar studies over the past few days and weeks from Britain's chambers of commerce, construction companies and others — that industry, especially manufacturing, is getting better, and still has considerable weaknesses, and wants a Budget that will promote business and economic stability.

When Mr Clarke met his Treasury ministers and senior officials at Dorneywood, his official residence, over the weekend, to discuss strategy for the Budget next month, he had advance notice of today's CBI findings. But calls by business for stability based on survey evidence such as today's CBI report present the Chancellor with a dilemma: the Budget that industry wants is a good distance away from the Budget Conservative MPs want. The latter may see the Budget as the key opportunity for the Government to improve its prospects before the general election. Over a longer run, economic indicators are good, supporting in particular the current high street mini-boom, and allowing Mr Clarke to claim at the recent Conservative party conference that the economy is "in its best condition ever in our lifetime", adding that people can now "feel the benefits of Tory economic policy as never before."

Yet the Government's own, and most recent, economic figures are mixed. Unemployment fell last week, by 36,500 — a much larger total than the City had expected — but average earnings in effect rose a quarter of a point. Headline inflation is unchanged, but the Government's target measure of underlying inflation, excluding mortgage interest payments, is shifting up too. Both sets of figures prompted calls for higher interest rates, offset by an unexpected setback in manufacturing, where output in August fell at the fastest rate for more than three years.

Such trends are leading to a considerable commonality of purpose across industry about what the Chancellor

should then do in the Budget, which CBI leaders are likely to reflect this morning when they publish in full the detailed results of their own survey: a steady Budget for growth, with steps to improve the public finances — and little, if any at all, room for tax cuts.

Adair Turner, Director-General of the CBI, said: "Our key messages are clear. For business, the priorities are stability, investment and continued progress in reducing public borrowing." Arguing that the state of the public finances calls for "caution", he says: "The shortfall of corporation tax and VAT receipts is a major factor. If this shortfall proves permanent, the scope for planned tax cuts must be reduced accordingly."

Darren Peters, deputy Director-General of the Chambers of Commerce Association, agrees. "The Chancellor and the Bank of England must leave interest rates and taxes alone. Further reductions could cause undue stimulus to the economy, while any increase could threaten the delicate balance of this recovery and hurt export markets," he said. So given where industry is within the economy, what does industry want from the Chancellor? Caution is the watchword.

In line with the cautious Budget business is looking for, Treasury and Bank of England officials want the Chancellor to opt for prudence — in part because of the poor state of the public finances, but also because, like business, they do not believe that the

economy, already moving up, needs any further stimulation. Tax cuts will be the key issue. Privately, business recognises that they are politically inevitable, though cuts in taxes — and especially any reductions in personal taxation — virtually define the economic imprudence business does not want to see. For business, how few cuts in taxes the Chancellor can get away with is likely to be the measure of how successful the Budget will be.

Business leaders are pleased with the note the Chancellor himself has been striking about what kind of Budget he is likely to produce, particularly on tax cuts. They liked what they heard from Mr Clarke at the Tory Party conference — that the key to any tax cuts is to control public spending and to reduce public borrowing: "We will cut taxes only when we can afford to, and only when it is good for the economy." They have not quite said so, but business leaders have all but declared that the state of the public finances is such that the Chancellor has, in fact, no room at all for tax cuts. To disguise the point, and to give the impression at least that they are cutting with the grain, most industry leaders propose at least some cuts in taxes — but they are virtually uniform in suggesting cuts in business taxation, and not just for self-interest, but because they are concerned that any cuts in personal taxes will damage the tax take still further and could add to inflationary pressures by an over-stimulation of demand.

But they privately recognise that what they claim to be the proposals that Britain needs economically are unlikely to be politically sufficient. In that, the judgment of business leaders may be shrewd: by sticking closely to economic requirements, industry leaders are clearly not tying themselves too obviously to the Conservative Party's political fortunes.

If Labour is voted in at the general election, on the Budget at least, business will have clean hands, having argued a case that manifestly is not enough for the Conservatives' re-election. So if the Chancellor does go beyond the strict prudence business wants to see from the Budget, business leaders may regret it — but they know that it might improve the Conservatives' re-election prospects, which they would welcome, or, at the very least, it might allow business to reap some benefit if the political wind changes.

BUSINESS CONFIDENCE				
	Percentage balance of companies			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1990	-29	-22	-27	-47
1991	-51	-17	-26	2
1992	-24	8	-9	-23
1993	11	31	11	1
1994	27	19	11	16
1995	17	13	3	-11
1996	-6	-3	8	

Source: CBI

BUSINESS LETTERS

Fresh perspective on fat-cat rewards

From Mr Denis Harvey-Kelly, Sir. It is time the fat cats of industry were put in proper perspective. Anyone who makes money for their shareholders should be properly rewarded.

It is the measurement that needs looking at more closely. The share price is a very poor yardstick. In any case share options create share dilution.

Might I suggest that an executive's incentive should not exceed any increase in the dividend to shareholders, and that any increase that reduces the cover of the dividend should not be counted. The only loophole left is the "jiggle" of the accounts. This is something that the auditors should be made accountable for.

No method is entirely satisfactory, but at least something on these lines ensures that no executive on an incentive can take out more from the company in which he works than his shareholders.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS HARVEY-KELLY,
Corby House,
Sherborne,
Dorset.

The system leads to poor non-executive directors

From Mr Clive Halton, Sir. The recent commentary on seemingly excessive pay arrangements and termination settlements can, in my view, often be placed at the door of the appointment system for non-executive directors.

Today's non-executive appointment demands at least three days per month of time in a large company, and this cannot only be comprised of the hours reading papers at a weekend. How can busy executive directors of leading plc devote such time and attention to

bribery by officials treated as corruption

From Mr Paul Vevers, Sir. Jason Nisbet's article under the headline "Bribe-seeking officials escape prosecution" (The Times, October 14) gives the impression that the Audit Commission regards attempts by government officials to pressure people into paying bribes as maladministration rather than corruption.

This is not the case. He was quoting from a letter from Derek Purdy, an Audit Commission official, about the lack of evidence in an individual case.

Our general position is clear: when officials exact bribes, that is corruption — whether bribes are actually paid or not. We condemn all corruption and auditors will act appropriately in pursuing it.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL VEVERS,
Director of Audit Support,
The Audit Commission,
1 Vincent Square,
London SW1.

Why Tottenham shares sagged

From Mr John Godfrey

Sir, Tempus (October 11) seems surprised that Tottenham Hotspur's share price is depressed. Perhaps he doesn't realise that financial success relies upon more than avoiding relegation. TV revenues are dependent to a large degree on the success of the team; and the biggest windfalls come to those who do well in European competitions. These, though, are only open to teams that win trophies or achieve high league placings. At present, Tottenham looks unlikely to meet these criteria.

Much has been said about the chairman's reluctance to invest in the football team, but we should not be surprised by this. He has done very nicely by avoiding competition with the "top end" of the market — a strategy that has worked so well for his other vehicle — Amstrad.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GODFREY,
29 Melsted Road,
Boxmoor,
Hemel Hempstead,
Herts.



Straws in the electoral wind

The apparent slump in Labour's opinion poll lead reported in the weekend press has jolted conventional wisdom. Although the Prime Minister's shirt-sleeved, honest John appeal to the electorate went down well in Bournemouth, few guessed that it would go very far in countering the latest dollop of sleaze and the threat from the Referendum Party.

And yet the latest NOP survey showed Labour lead down from 23 points a fortnight ago to 14 points, the lowest reported by this particular survey of voter intentions for three years.

The 23-point lead came in the NOP poll on October 3, just after Tony Blair's widely praised speech in Blackpool and before a Conservative conference that turned out to be surprisingly trouble-free. Taking out this poll, all other recent adjusted polls have given Labour a lead of between 14 points and 19 points.

Still, there does appear to have been a small, but genuine, improvement in the Government's poll position. The NOP reading may be the first sign that an improving economy is finally translating into greater popularity. If so, Kenneth Clarke stands vindicated. He has persistently argued that a return of consumer confidence will prove the Government's best electoral friend. And he has counselled, never more strongly than in Bournemouth, against cosmetic tax cuts.

The business of interpreting opinion polls is hazardous but research suggests that the Chancellor is pursuing the best strategy. Only today, Simon Price of Oxford Economic Forecasting, writes that the public's perception of a party's economic competence matters greatly in determining popularity but also that there is no mileage for "extremely unpopular" governments in throwing away what vestiges of economic competence they have purely to win an election. "The damage is too large to undo," he says. "So they may as well act responsibly."

The Government has long experienced a disheartening disjunction between the performance of the economy and its standing in opinion

THE TIMES

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An unbelievable offer
starting in The Times on
Monday, October 28.

Ageism fears abound at both ends of spectrum

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

OLDER workers and those at the start of their careers should be protected by legislation to outlaw age discrimination, according to a nationwide survey of employees.

In what is claimed to be the first comprehensive look into the views of workers as opposed to bosses, an overwhelming majority — more than 92 per cent — said it was ability rather than age which counted in the workplace. Nearly 90 per cent said that there should be laws to protect

workers from age prejudice, although 30 per cent were pessimistic that such laws would be effective. More than three quarters of those questioned said age limits should be banned from job advertisements.

The survey by Austin Knight, the recruitment and communication consultancy, and The Employers Forum on Age spoke to workers from employers including Allied Distillers, the Bank of England, Marks & Spencer, Nationwide Building Society and a selection of county councils.

Research by Austin Knight earlier this year into employment opportuni-

ties revealed a high proportion of workers claiming they had been the victims of age discrimination. The survey published today also finds substantial numbers of people claiming age prejudice at both ends of the age spectrum. More than half said they had been thought of as too young.

Generally, older workers were found to be more open to change and more willing to learn new skills than the perception held by some employers and colleagues. The study found that older people do not take more time off work than their younger counterparts, although those who

think they do are most likely to be young employees. Similarly it was indicated that managing older staff can be seen as problematic for younger staff.

Anne Riley, chief executive of Austin Knight, said the extent of age discrimination at work has been largely underestimated because workers are reluctant to complain. One in six employees who had experienced ageism had moved from that company, about two thirds took no action and about a sixth made an informal complaint. Ms Riley said:

"It appears that there is a quiet-life

mentality present in many workers that has kept hidden the depth and extent of age discrimination."

Ruth Jarratt, development director of the Employers Forum on Age, said the study should make employers review their attitude to age. She said: "One of the most striking points that emerges from this survey is the strong belief that people should be recruited on merit alone, and yet it is obvious that the workplace abounds in misconceptions about both young and older people's abilities."

Pennington, page 29

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Barclays confirms talks with Morgan

BARCLAYS BANK yesterday confirmed that it is in discussions with Morgan Stanley, the US investment bank, regarding possible cooperation in the field of global custody. Barclays said it is further announcement would be made "at a later date." It is believed Barclays may sell its global custody business, which handles up to £200 billion worth of funds, to Morgan Stanley. The acquisition would make Morgan Stanley one of the largest custodians in the world, in a business that is rapidly consolidating.

Global custody has expanded from safekeeping of shares and bonds to include investment accounting, performance measurement and securities lending. The sector suffers from thin operating margins and high compliance costs and requires significant expenditure on new technology. Martin Taylor, Barclays chief executive, is reported to have decided it should no longer form part of the core business.

Weir power play

WEIR GROUP, the engineering company based in Scotland, has won orders worth more than £10 million to supply specialist pumping equipment to the power generation industry in the Pacific Rim. Three of the four contracts were placed by power contractors based in America, Japan and Germany. Under the terms of the deals, Weir will manufacture a range of equipment for various applications, including boiler feed, condensate extraction and auxiliary feed for power plants in South Korea, China and Thailand.

Angerstein eyes Coffey

ANGERSTEIN Underwriting Trust, the Lloyd's of London agency, is considering the acquisition of P B Coffey, managing agent for Lloyd's Marine Syndicate 902, it was announced yesterday. The Coffey syndicate, established in 1976, has an unbroken record of profits, and the average return over the last five years has been 10.91 per cent. The syndicate has underwriting capacity of £37.5 million for the 1996 account and writes a broad spread of marine business, with strong interests in cargo, hull, liabilities and excess of loss.

Vodafone landmark

VODAFONE, the mobile phone network operator, has signed the millionth subscriber to its digital network. Chris Gent, currently Vodafone's managing director and chief executive designate, said the company had extended the lead over its nearest rival to 300,000 subscribers by the end of September, from a lead of just 17,000 in January. Vodafone had a total subscriber base of more than 2.65 million, which included more than 1.6 million on its analogue network.

Langdons buys rival

LANGDONS FOODS, the coffee and tea merchant, has acquired Cafe D'Or, a rival London coffee roaster, for £32,000. Langdons proposes to close the company's operations at Bow, east London, and move production to its own headquarters in Woolwich. Cafe D'Or supplies 300 independent delicatessens, mostly in the South East. Yesterday Langdons reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £76,000 from £37,000 in the half-year to June. Earnings were 0.06p a share (0.04p). A maiden dividend of 0.04p is proposed.

Premier bid rejected

Premier OIL, the UK energy company, has had its A\$100 million (about £50 million) takeover bid for Australia's Discovery Petroleum rejected by the Discovery board. Charles Jamieson, chief executive of Premier Oil, said that Discovery had commissioned a third-party valuation of their company, which came up with a value of between 71 cents and 95 cents per share, compared with Premier's offer of 70 cents. Mr Jamieson said Premier was now considering its options. Premier's offer remains open until November 11.

Brandon Hire hitch

SHARES of Brandon Hire fell 23½ p to 94p after the tool and catering equipment hire group warned investors that operating profits would not match earlier expectations. The warning coincided with the announcement of the sale of JSL Pasternik in a £2 million deal that will be used to reduce group borrowings. Brian Nathan, chairman of Brandon Hire, said margins in the tool hire division had not yet improved to the same level as the catering division. In addition, the company had incurred reorganisation costs of £350,000.

Arcon mine creates jobs

ARCON INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES is to create 125 jobs as it prepares for full production at its new lead and zinc mine. Arcon, based in Dublin, said most of the jobs at the mine in Galmoy, County Kilkenny, would be recruited locally from surrounding counties. Full production from Ireland's first zinc and lead mine in more than 20 years is due to start at the beginning of next year. Almost 45 per cent of Arcon is owned by Tony O'Reilly, chairman of the Heinz food group and Independent Newspapers, and his family.

SAS plans SAA alliance

SCANDINAVIAN Airlines System (SAS) plans to form an alliance with South African Airways (SAA) to gain a foothold on the African continent. SAS has existing strategic partnerships with Lufthansa, United Airlines, Thai Airways International and Air Canada. Deregulation has brought the Scandinavian carrier competition on short-haul European services and some domestic routes, notably from British Airways Express and Virgin Express. Last month, Virgin announced a code-sharing agreement with South Africa's Sun Air.

Return to profit fails to shake doubts over IBM's recovery

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

IBM, the computer group, reported better than expected profits for the third quarter of this year after a hefty loss at the same time last year, but Wall Street remains cautious about the company's long-term recovery.

IBM turned in profits of \$1.3 billion, up from a \$500 million loss in the third quarter of 1995. When the purchase of Lotus Notes, the networking software company, is stripped out of last year's figure, IBM's profits were flat. However, this still compares favourably with the 22 per cent fall in profits during the second quarter. Although revenues in the US, Asia and Latin America increased 8 per cent to \$18.1 billion, revenues from the troubled European operation did not rise.

"This was a very good quarter," said Louis Gerstner, chairman. Mr Gerstner has been working to turn the company around after huge losses two years ago threw a question mark over its future. He said one of the highlights had been sales of networking hardware and software, which has become a key part of IBM's recovery strategy.

IBM's results have become a major event on Wall Street. Twice this year they have caused major stock market moves. In April the company's chief financial officer, Richard Thomas, gave a pessimistic trading forecast which sent IBM shares tumbling and caused a collapse in the computer sector. This, in turn, triggered a decline across the whole market during the summer.

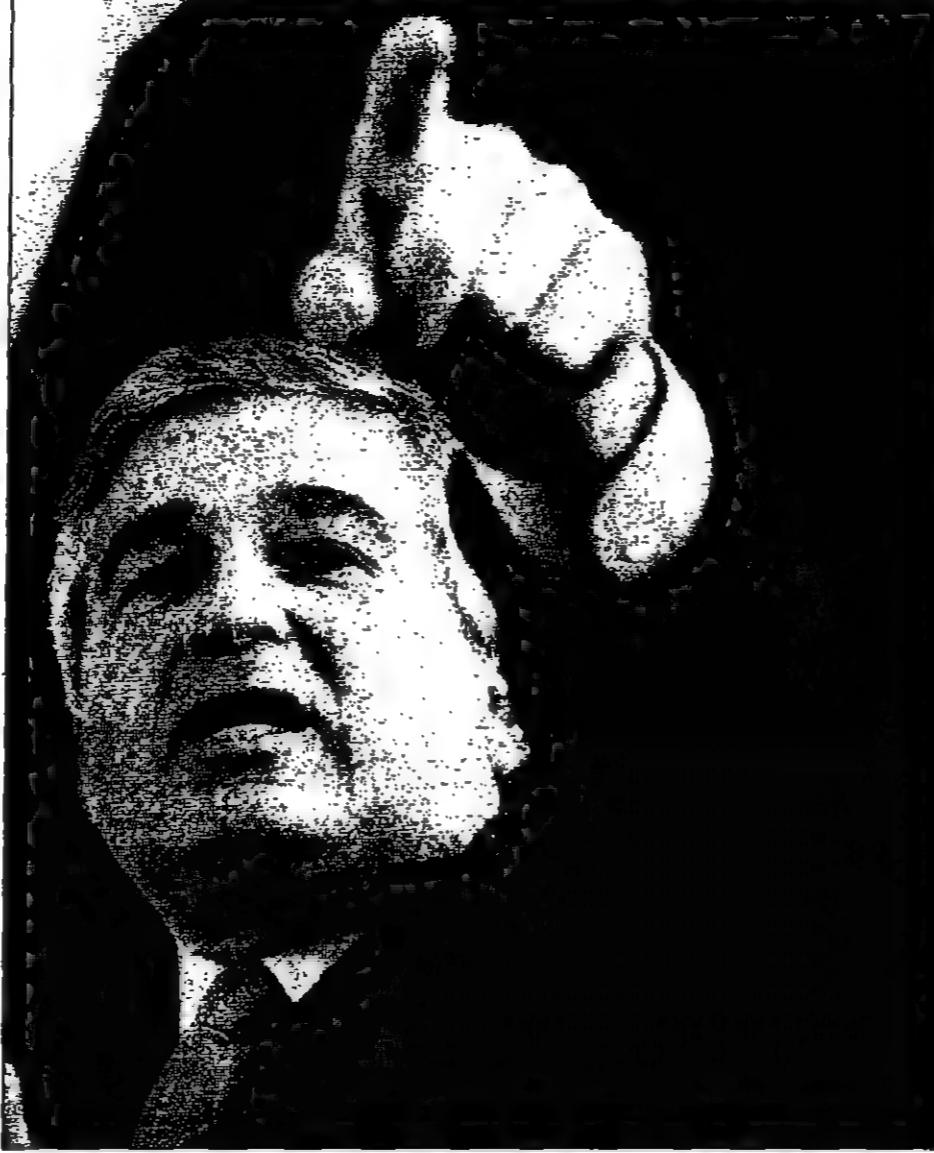
In July, however, he gave an upbeat forecast which pushed up IBM shares dramatically and helped a stock market recovery.

Doubts persist over the solidity of IBM's recovery because its recent good performance has been based on heavy sales of a new generation of mainframe computers and large computer operating contracts.

However, many analysts doubt that mainframes will continue to sell well as businesses turn to the Internet and internal networking systems. Major customers, such as Ford, the car manufacturer, are ending their reliance on mainframes and are switching to more flexible systems. Meanwhile, IBM is only breaking even in its personal computer business.

The group's shares rose by nearly 3% yesterday to \$132.5, its highest level for five years and more than three times the low of \$40 in 1992. Mr Gerstner has engineered the recovery by cutting costs, cutting the workforce by tens of thousands and introducing the new range of mainframe computers.

The group is in no immediate financial trouble because its cashflow, even after its large capital spending, is a healthy \$9 billion a year. Nevertheless, the shares remain extremely volatile because of investor concern that Mr Gerstner's strategy may not be enough to cope with rapid changes in the computer industry.



Louis Gerstner has cut costs and jobs and introduced the new mainframe computers

New telecom licences imminent

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

FIRST licences for new companies in the international telecoms market are planned for the end of this year, the Department of Trade and Industry said yesterday.

The DTI issued a new draft form of the licence for comments before the final version is awarded to companies who want to offer international services over their own facilities. The Government published a consultation paper on liberalising the provision of international services over a company's own facilities in March. Forty-six companies have applied for the international facilities licences.

Ian Taylor, Science and Technology Minister, said: "Competition will reduce prices for UK consumers, encourage more inward investment and boost our position as Europe's leading telecoms hub."

Mr Taylor said the Government wanted a regulatory regime that cuts costs to industry but allows Ofcom, the regulator, to clamp down on anti-competitive operations.

Hillsdown to buy in rest of Strong

BY FRASER NELSON

HILLSDOWN HOLDINGS, the foods conglomerate, has agreed to spend £4.3 million on buying the shares that it does not already own of Strong & Fisher, the USM-quoted animal by-products producer.

The deal will end Strong & Fisher's 28 years as an independently quoted company. It values the shares at 21p, compared with Friday's closing price of 12½p, and the firm at £36 million. Hillsdown has controlled the company since 1990, when it gained 70 per cent of its shares in a rescue package. Before yesterday's offer it bought from minority

Shares in Conrad suspended

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

SHARES in Conrad, the sports company that recently lost its bid for Leeds United FC, were suspended at a three-year high of 64p yesterday, as it prepared to announce a £12 million takeover offer for Sheffield United (Fraser Nelson writes).

Conrad is expected to confirm a reverse bid either today or tomorrow, ending months of City speculation.

It is understood to have been in discussion with three other football teams which approached the company after it lost to Caspian in last July's bid for Leeds United. Its shares are expected to start trading again next month.

NHL pays £44m for mortgage portfolio

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

NATIONAL Home Loans, the centralised lender, has bought a portfolio of mortgages from a UK bank for £44 million.

The price represents a discount on the assets of the mortgage book, which are believed to be in the region of £50 million. The interest rate on the 1,000 mortgages which comprise the loan portfolio is between 7 per cent and 11.5 per cent. Nick Keen, NHL finance director, said: "We will be reviewing the rates paid by all the borrowers. The rates will be set according to the particular circumstances."

He added that the book contained performing and

non-performing loans. NHL has about 25,000 borrowers who pay between 6.5 per cent and 11.5 per cent interest on their mortgages. NHL has been strongly criticised for keeping the rates for its borrowers high in spite of the overall drop in interest rates.

Mr Keen said the centralised lender would continue to look out for mortgage books which represented value for money. "We are looking for small books at the right price," he said. The purchase is NHL's third since its restructuring and rights issue last year. NHL refused to identify the bank from which the portfolio had come.

Eurotunnel plans to make 650 redundant

EUROTUNNEL, the Channel tunnel operator, will today tell employees that 650 jobs must go. About 300 are to be lost in the UK, with the remainder in France (Christine Buckley writes).

The job cuts are part of an extensive clampdown on costs already announced as the group, which is in talks to restructure its £9.1 billion bank debt, tries to move into profit. The company

has previously announced the closure of offices in London and Paris to concentrate operations in Folkestone and Calais. Details of the cuts will be announced in separate meetings with the UK and French company works councils by Georges-Christian Chazot, Eurotunnel's operational managing director. The cuts are expected to be implemented over the next year to 14

months and will largely affect short-term contract workers and consultants. But it is likely that full-time Eurotunnel staff will also be affected. The company said yesterday it would try to avoid compulsory redundancies.

Eurotunnel plans to hold an extraordinary shareholders meeting by April next year to approve the restructuring, which will be backed by the audited

accounts for 1996. Its bankers are considering a debt-for-equity swap. Cash generation from operations is said by the company to be crucial to its future under the restructuring.

Last week it reworked its operations to separate Le Shuttle and Railway Services as two businesses, concentrating respectively on the road and rail users of the Channel Tunnel.

Channel One
We've gone to great lengths to accommodate you.
Starting with fully extendable seats.



Another record close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

	High	Low	Close	Per	%	Chg
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES						
100-101 A & W Root Beer	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
102-103 Absolut	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
104-105 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
106-107 Amstel Light	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
108-109 Amstel Gold	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
110-111 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
112-113 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
114-115 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
116-117 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
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240-241 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
242-243 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
244-245 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
246-247 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
248-249 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
250-251 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
252-253 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
254-255 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
256-257 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
258-259 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
260-261 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
262-263 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
264-265 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
266-267 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
268-269 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
270-271 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
272-273 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
274-275 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
276-277 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
278-279 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
280-281 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
282-283 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
284-285 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
286-287 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
288-289 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
290-291 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
292-293 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.10	-0.01	-0.9%
294-295 Amstel Lager	1.12	1.09	1.1			

THE TIMES TUESDAY OCTOBER 22 1996

THE MEDWAY TOWNS

FOCUS

Della Mason introduces a three-page report on the Medway Towns' recovery

Kent revival onstream

About half a million people who live or work in the Medway Towns, Kent, have good reason to celebrate as the whole area — the towns of Rochester, Gillingham, Chatham, Rainham and Strood — sees the biggest boost of commercial investment in their lifetime.

New roads and a new tunnel — together with a £180 million project — plus state-of-the-art offices, a university and a £160 million housing development on St Mary's Island, are complete or under way. They have created a feeling of optimism in this area astride the River Medway, home to one sixth of the population of Kent.

Just one hour from London, this commuter belt has felt the chilly blast of recession more fiercely than most parts of Britain. It was triggered by the closure of Chatham Royal Naval Dockyard in 1984, the biggest single employer of skilled workers in the area, with the loss of 7,000 jobs. The knock-on effect was immense. Unemployment reached 12 per cent at its height in January 1993.

Recovery is now evident throughout the area. This year the Princess Royal opened the new £80 million Medway Tunnel, a dual carriageway under the Medway. The £100 million Medway Towns Northern Relief Road, which links into the tunnel and

directly onto the M2, providing speedy access to the M25, London, the Channel Tunnel and the Continent, will be completed in early 1999. Travel time to the motorway will drop from one hour to 10 minutes.

English Partnerships, the Government's urban regeneration agency, Thamesport container terminal and Rochester upon Medway City Council financed a £21 million loan to get the project started. The Rochester Bridge Trust and English Partnerships staked part of the investment for the new tunnel, and the Government has now matched the offer and given its financial commitment to the schemes, including repayment of the loan. As a result Kent County Council has become the provider of one of the largest transport projects in the UK.

About 4,000 businesses are located in the area, ranging from aviations at Rochester to financial company headquarters in Chatham and foreign investment in manufacturing in Gillingham.

Business parks in the Medway Towns include the Gillingham Business Park which has won awards for its design and upkeep.

The Medway City Estate, at one end of the new Medway Tunnel, has unique waterside plots and 2,000 employees

on site. It is ripe for expansion. The former Chatham dockyard covered 550 acres of prime land. On closure the Government divided it into three, the first being 80 acres of dockyard history and buildings, now the Historic Dockyard.

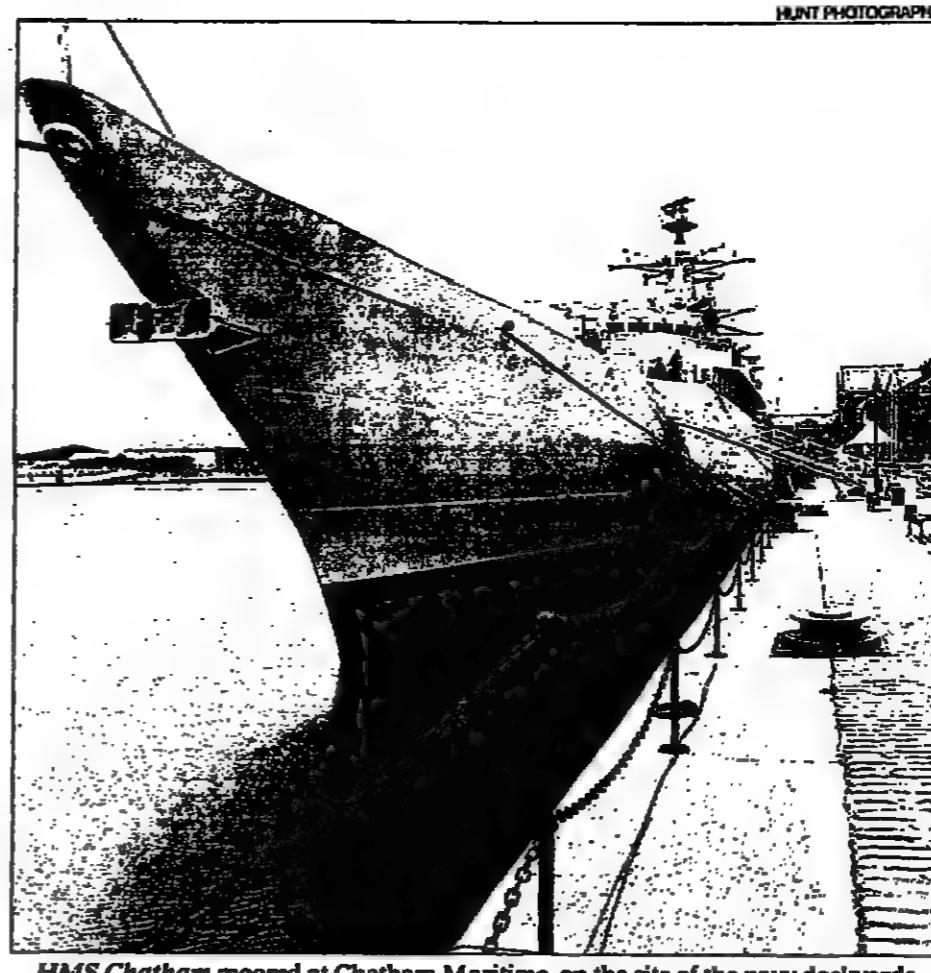
The next 350 acres was scheduled for redevelopment by English Partnerships. Its remit was to prepare the site for redevelopment by providing and marketing opportunities for companies to build new homes, offices, a marina, shops and leisure buildings, all within a masterplan. The third area, the waterside and docks at Chatham, was acquired by Medway Ports, which became part of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, Liverpool, in October 1993.

Twelve years after the dockyard closure, regeneration is taking shape.

Stephen Pritchard of BBP Associates, managing the Chatham Maritime project for English Partnerships, says: "We are delighted that the results are beginning to be seen and appreciated."

"We are regenerating a huge area. When companies look at this now for the first time they are singing a far different tune from seven years ago."

Today's unemployment figures stand at 7.9 per cent and continue to fall as business moves back into the area.



HMS Chatham moored at Chatham Maritime, on the site of the navy dockyards

Island offers life on the river

ST MARY'S ISLAND, Chatham Maritime, joint venture by English Partnerships and Countryside Properties is designed to create a complete "island community" on 150 acres.

The first phase of building is almost complete on what were mudflats in the River Medway, once part of the Chatham Royal Naval base. There are single apartments, two and three-bedroom houses, and three and four-bedroom detached houses.

Demand for property on the island, which is lapped by the tides of the Medway estuary and encircled by a riverside walk, has exceeded expectations. The first phase of 47 houses, priced from £44,950 to £79,950 and £180,000, attracted buyers quickly. This has brought forward the whole building programme of 201 properties.

Independent architects are being invited to submit plans for the island school, community hall, a small retail development and a doctor's surgery.

Part of the £160 million project will have riverside houses and overlook a marina. There are 50 acres of parkland in the centre of the island, and a security system.

The next stage to be planned will be a fisherman's village, with a traditional public house at the ancient jetty. Builders from abroad, including one Finnish company, are being invited to bring their own designs.

Richard Moore, the project manager, says: "People of all ages are viewing this development with great excitement. It is unique. Much thought and care is going into the scheme to make it a superb place to live and to enjoy the river."

The site manager, John Sutton, added: "It is an island where families will feel secure and able to relax." The island already has a new £80 million access tunnel.

DELLA MASON

A fitting home for naval history

John Young explores the award-winning maritime museum based at Chatham's Royal Dockyard

The Ministry of Defence has been strongly criticised lately for its alleged insensitivity in disposing of properties that have become surplus to its needs. But its decision in 1984 to hand over the historic core of the great Royal Dockyard, Chatham, Kent, 80 acres of splendid and evocative buildings, many classed as ancient monuments, to a charitable trust to be conserved and managed as a museum, could only have been applauded.

It would have been a tragedy if it had done anything else. For not only is the dockyard at the heart of more than four centuries of naval history, but it also provides a superbly spacious site for the display of an ever-growing collection of maritime treasures which attracts more than 120,000 visitors a year and provides a home for nearly 100 businesses, which employ some 325 people.

In about 1570, the building of a mass pond, storehouses and a forge at Chatham placed it in the forefront of the great age of Elizabethan naval expansion. A decade later, the Queen held a reception for visiting foreign dignitaries, no doubt in order to impress upon them that, as a maritime power, Britain meant business.

Among Chatham's subsequent achievements were the launch of the *Revenge*, celebrated in Tennyson's poem; the "fighting" *Temeraire*, the subject of Turner's most famous painting and *HMS Victory*, Nelson's flagship in 1805.

The "iron-clad" *Achilles*, then the world's largest ship, was launched in 1863. In wartime (boom) and peace-time (recession) the dockyard

built everything from battleships to nuclear submarines, and from the first experimental catamaran to a pleasure yacht for the Tsar, Peter the Great.

When ships limped home from war, it repaired and relaunched them. Among them were the cruiser *HMS Ajax*, heroine of the Battle of the River Plate, and *HMS Kelly*, the destroyer made famous by her commander Lord Mountbatten.

The trust was initially funded by the Government in a one-off payment of £11.35 million, which has since been supplemented by grants from the Department of National Heritage, charitable donations, rents from commercial tenants and the conversion and sale of some Georgian

buildings for residential use. In 1992, it received the British Tourist Authority's Come to Britain special award for outstanding enterprise.

One of the most publicised attractions of the museum is the Ropery, built to supply the needs of sailing ships which needed some 20 miles of rope for their rigging alone and lines long enough to anchor in 40 fathoms. Ropes are still produced by traditional methods for commercial use, and regular demonstrations are held in a building nearly a quarter of a mile long.

In the same category is the "sail and colour loft", where sails and flags are still produced on a commercial basis. Across the road is *HMS Gannet*, the last surviving Victorian naval sloop, now

being restored for the Maritime Trust. Last May saw the opening of a collection of historic lifeboats and *HMS Ocelot*, the last submarine built in Chatham, will shortly have a new home in the dockyard.

Perhaps the most enjoyable display is the Wooden Walls gallery in the former Mast House and Mould Loft. Describes the building of an 18th-century warship as if a young apprentice is telling the story. When funding is available, a parallel exhibition will be installed to describe the building of a later iron vessel when funds permit.

There is also a detailed model of *HMS Victory* which had been built in 1941 for a Hollywood film about Lady Hamilton. The model was donated by the United States Naval Training Centre in San Diego, California. In a way, it seems a pity that the real thing should be in Portsmouth.



Chatham dockyard, once the cradle for the Fleet, now guards the Navy's treasures including a Victorian naval sloop

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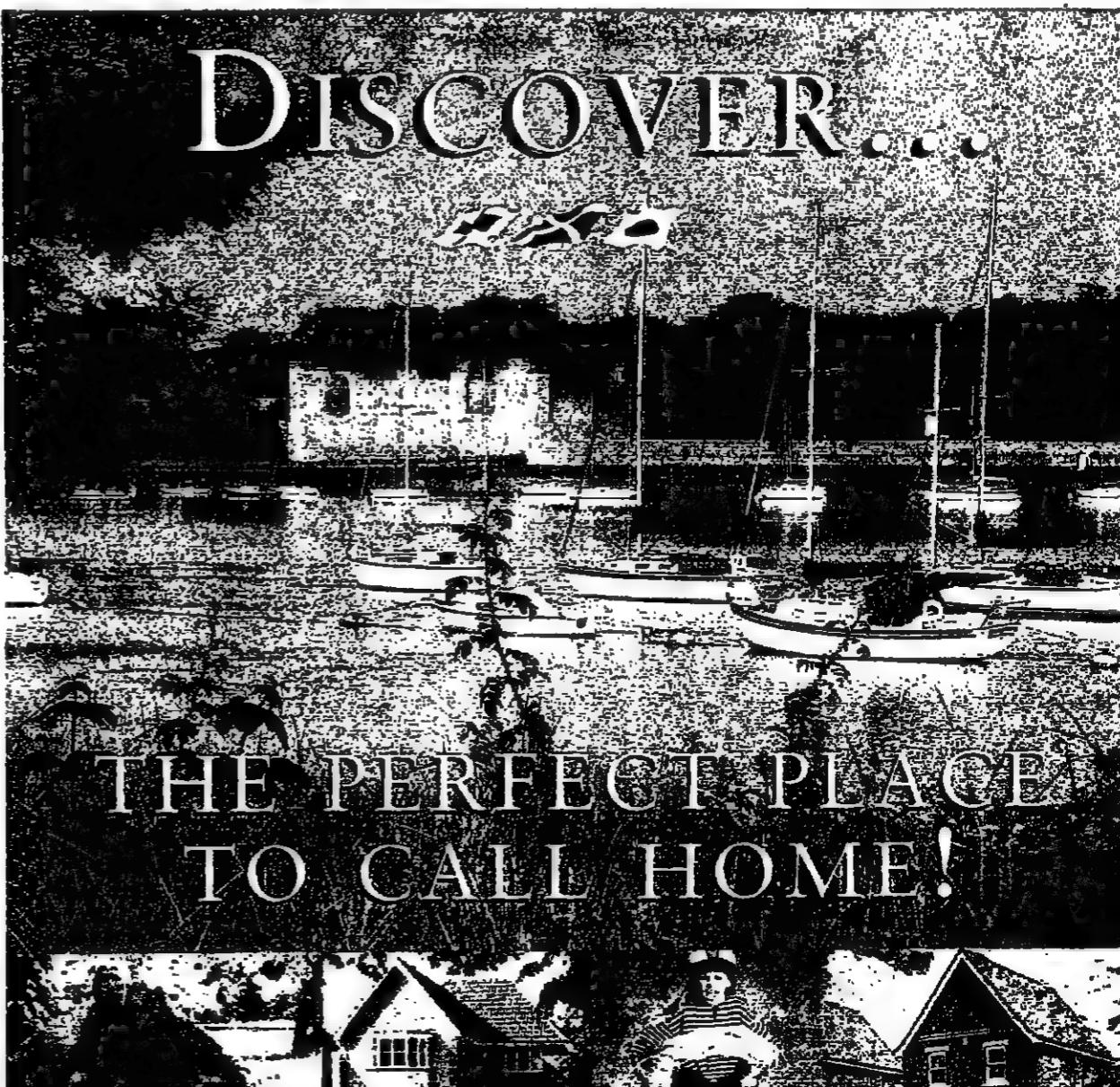


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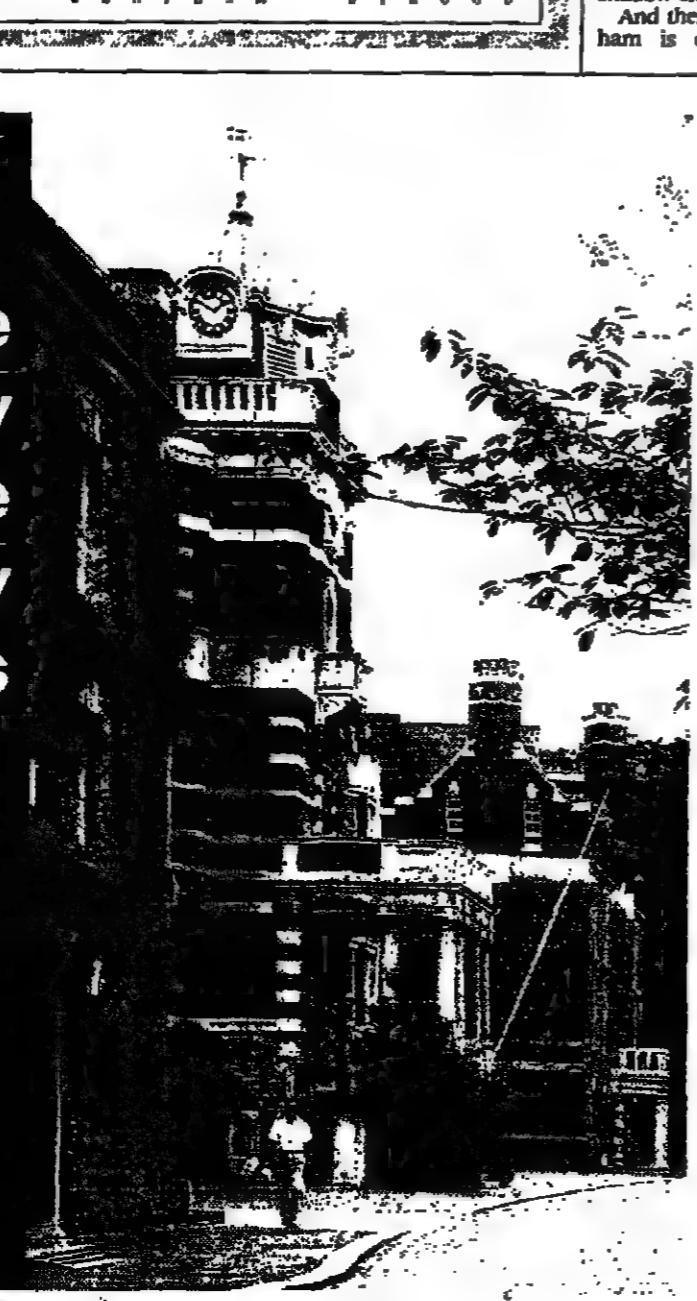
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FOCUS

THE TIMES TUESDAY OCTOBER 22 1996

HUNT PHOTOGRAPHIC



Down by the riverside: Chatham has begun to transform itself from a "squaddy town" into a place where white-collar businesses are flourishing

Chatham spreads its wings

What happened to the town when the great Royal Dockyard closed down? John Young reports

On March 30, 1994, after more than four centuries of building and servicing Britain's Navy, the great Royal Dockyard in Chatham closed its gates for the last time.

In an already economically depressed region — at least by the standards of southeast England — the loss of 7,000 jobs in the dockyard itself and hundreds more among the companies which supplied it might have proved catastrophic. In fact it spawned a diversification which has both revived the economy and transformed the environment.

Garrison towns are seldom places of beauty, and Chatham in its naval heyday was no exception. Across the river Rochester had its cathedral, its castle, its picturesque streets and Dickensian heritage, but Chatham was, in the words of John Day, chief executive of the Medway Chamber of Commerce and Industry, "a squaddy town", overwhelmingly dependent on the military.

But the boom of the late 1980s did not last. By the end of decade recession had struck, and all too many of the brave new enterprises succumbed. Larger firms in the area, such as Metal Box and Wingates, survived mainly unscathed, but GEC Avionics, like the rest of the defence industry, was hit by the "peace dividend" and has since been

forced to shed about half its 6,000-strong workforce.

Many small firms which folded were located on the Medway City Estate, a conventional industrial estate. A more imaginative and better planned approach has been adopted on the Gillingham industrial park, home mostly to companies with more money to invest. It has already won awards for landscaping and the emphasis placed on visual amenities.

Among the newcomers are three Japanese companies: a development attributed by David Neale, a board member of the chamber responsible for marketing, partly to the links formed by one Will Adams, a local man who was invited to Japan in the 1920s to advise on the modernisation of the Imperial Navy.

Another important to the area's economic revival has

been Chatham Maritime, established by English Estates, and now the responsibility of its successor English Partnerships, to redevelop and revitalise some 350 acres formerly occupied by the dockyard.

There are one or two clouds on an otherwise generally bright horizon. One is the huge new Bluewater out-of-town shopping development in nearby Dartford, which, it is feared, could damage local retailers. Another is the failure to derive more advantages from the Channel Tunnel rail link: it had been hoped that the line would run further north and that Medway, rather than Ashford, would be chosen as the main interchange station in Kent.

Chatham has not lost its seagoing tradition. Chatham Docks, a new commercial port opened after the closure of the

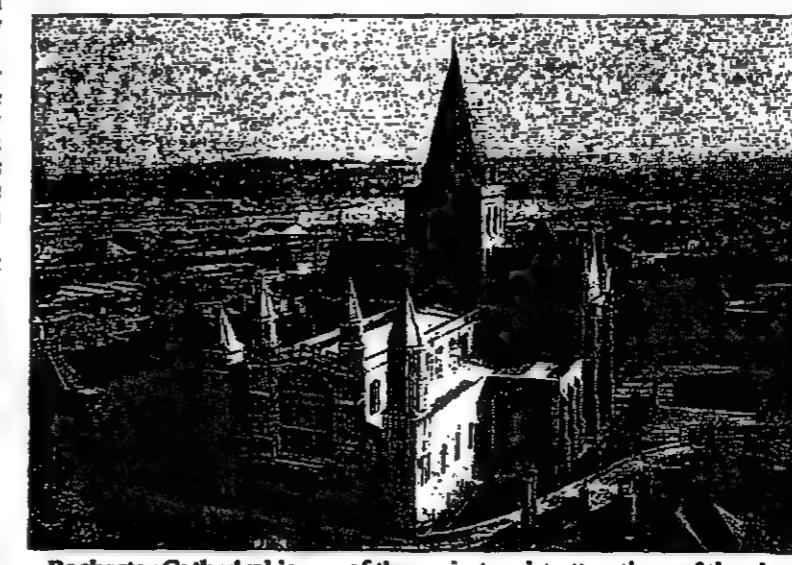
dockyard, is owned and operated by Medway Ports, a division of Mersey Docks and Harbour Company. It is home to about 20 shipping, transport and distribution companies, engaged notably in steel and timber products, and employs more than 200 people.

Among the mainly white-collar newcomers are Colonial Mutual, Amec Civil Engineering, Abbey National, Central Television, Sout Bank Systems, the Natural Resources Institute and Kent County Council. A new marina, with waterside hotels and restaurants, will enhance the amenities and residential developments will help to meet the shortage of "executive" housing.

Chatham has not lost its seagoing tradition. Chatham Docks, a new commercial port opened after the closure of the

John Grigsby looks at the reluctant marriage of neighbours Rochester and Gillingham

Wedding wail from two cities



Rochester Cathedral is one of the main tourist attractions of the city

If there is a bureaucratic heaven, the marriage of the City of Rochester upon Medway with the borough of Gillingham was definitely not made there.

Gillingham is being dragged protesting to the altar, to merge with Rochester on April 1, 1998, following Parliament's approval in July of the order creating the new authority of 200,000 people. It will also form a new Medway county, carved out of Kent.

Despite their geographical proximity, Rochester and Gillingham are unlikely bedfellows. Almost all they have in common is Chatham dockyard: the historic docks are in Rochester's area and Chatham Maritime, with its associated business park, in Gillingham.

Rochester is dominated by the great set piece of the Norman keep and Cathedral and cherishes its links with Charles Dickens. Gillingham is a town of neat terraced houses, the legacy of its growth in the mid-19th century as a dormitory for the Royal Navy Dockyard and the associated military establishments along the Medway.

The changeover is complex: 38 groups of officers from the three councils involved are considering the changeover, and 80 per cent of the staff and functions will come from Kent County Council, which vigorously fought to keep the county intact.

Matters are further complicated by Rochester's status as a city, which will have to appear in the title of the new authority if it is to be retained. A decision on the new authority's name and coat of arms will be taken after the shadow elections on April 1.

And then there are politics. Gillingham is controlled by the Liberal

Democrats, while Rochester is staunchly Labour. The parliamentary seats are held by Conservatives, but there are few Tories on the two councils. Although all parties are pledged to make the new authority work, Bob Sayer, Liberal Democrat leader of Gillingham, says: "We are terribly disappointed. We do not have much in common. Most people in

Gillingham regard Rochester as conservative with a small 'c', while we are much more visionary and we have a strong community spirit which will be swamped." Gillingham has set out aggressively to attract business. Japanese firms, including Fuji, have already moved to the area and 90 per cent of its business park is occupied.

While Gillingham held on to its

3,500 council houses and prides itself on providing the homeless with temporary accommodation, Rochester sold its entire stock to a building society, the interest enabling it to avoid levying a district council tax for three years.

John Shaw, Labour leader of Rochester, said the new authority would be more powerful, enabling it to develop the economy of the whole area which had been devastated by the closure of Chatham dockyard in the mid-Eighties.

"Anything we have done, or Gillingham has done, since then has affected both areas," he said. "It has been monstrous really not to have a co-ordinated policy."

Nevertheless, to many the decision of John Gummer, the Secretary of State for the Environment, who was educated at King's School, Rochester, appears illogical. Kent will lose 5 per cent of its population, but 15 per cent of its budget.

There is little popular support. Of those questioned for a MORI poll, 63 per cent in Gillingham and 53 per cent in Rochester opted for no change. Apart from the transitional costs, estimated by the commission to be £7.8 million-£11.2 million, the average Band D taxpayer in Kent is expected to pay an extra £23 a year, and residents of the two towns an average of £190 a year to cover the costs of the change.

Many regard Kent as a well-run authority which has capitalised on its geographical position and spread the benefits to the whole county. Now some business quarters fear these policies will be jeopardised when Medway becomes its own little country.

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The Dickens of a time

Della Mason on how the Medway towns celebrate their links with the great novelist

Medway life in the 1800s is chronicled in Charles Dickens's novel *Great Expectations*. Today Rochester High Street steps back into the past at least three times a year to take on the atmosphere created by the writer, who loved the town, who knew every cranny there and who wrote about and immortalised local people.

The annual celebration of the Dickensian Christmas (on December 7 and 8 this year), one of the main events on the tourist calendar, evokes the memory of the Victorian winters he described so vividly. The visitor can rub shoulders with Scrooge (albeit the 1996 version in costume), Mr Pickwick or any one of the huge cast of characters that Dickens drew from real life. Local people insist that you can still meet those recognisable Dickens characters. Dickens at Rochester is an important part of the Medway Towns' tourism trade. In 1995, 437,000 visitors were attracted to places of interest including the Charles Dickens Centre, Rochester Castle, and Chatham Historic Dockyard.

Many thousands more flock from all over the world to the street extravaganzas: the Rochester Sweep Festival (May), the Dickens Festival (May/June) and Dickensian Christmas with its bellringers, horse-drawn vehicles and music-hall shows.

Rochester is also hoping to



Many thousands flock from all over the world to the Dickens Festival

become known as a festival city. It has a sports festival, the summer Medway Arts Festival with top orchestras performing open-air, a Norman Rochester event, where everyone dresses in costume, and the Strood Steam Fair (traction engines, costumes not obligatory).

The principal events officer, Carl Madjitey, is a busy man. The summer Dickens Festival was launched 18 years ago, and has

grown year by year. The streets are full of crinolines, frock coats and costumes, and people travel hundreds of miles to tinkle from cars, faces painted and wearing wigs: all part of the frivolity and fun.

These events, neither highbrow nor exacting, are sheer amusement. There is dancing in the street, laughter — and the children love it.

Dickensian Christmas is a picture story, with real snow — yes, if

it does not snow, they bring it in — and ice for skaters. "It actually feels like Christmas here ... with the snow and the twinkling lights and ladies in big fur-trimmed bonnets. It is very enticing," says Mr Madjitey. He adds that the whole idea of their Dickensian Christmas is to step back in time — and take things slowly.

"People say to me 'But what happens at the Christmas event?' In fact it is people doing their Christmas shopping, meeting friends and enjoying it all at a leisurely pace. We are so unused to that today. But once you do wind down, it really is fabulous. The carol singers from Rochester Cathedral come out to sing carols in the snow ... It just feels like Christmas the way it should be, the way it was ..."

With the High Street closed to cars, staff in bars and coffee shops are in white caps and ankle-length aprons for most of the year. Dickens would have felt at ease here. He lived at Gads Hill Place, two miles from Rochester, and spent his early boyhood in Chatham, when his father moved to work in the pay office at the naval dockyard, and he knew every inch of Medway.

A new £1 million Tourist Visitor Centre opened in August in Rochester. There are plans to provide one ticket to cover all the places of interest with coach pick-up points.

But Rochester has other new plans. After the huge success of the summer arts festival — of classical music — plus the return of the Royal Shakespeare Company in November with the *Comedy of Errors*, there is a mood to introduce an event to celebrate the works of Dickens. The council is hoping to attract big hotels to the area with its new marketing strategy, and is planning to expand Dickens tourism and festivals.



The model campus: the Grade I listed buildings were formerly the officers' and ratings' quarters

Making waves in science

Medway Campus: from naval college to learning centre

students are mature learners. Students still enjoy themselves but they are working hard, too. Often foreign students have led the way in this. They are here to work, especially since it could be costing, up to £35,000. It makes teaching rather pleasant," Professor Willis says.

The professor is also acting as director of the Natural Resources Institute (NRI), part of the former Government-run Overseas Development Administration. It employs about 300 scientists and works on worldwide projects relating to soil fertility, drainage, irrigation, crop procedures and protection of the environment.

When the NRI was privatised last year, the University of Greenwich became the new owner. Linking up with the University of Edinburgh, Imperial College and Wye College of the University of

London, it also put together a joint venture company — the Natural Resources International Ltd — to become the business-winning arm of NRI. The institute aims to win more managed research, consultancy and training projects. The NRI staff, who have tremendous hands-on experience abroad, will also lecture students on environmental studies and earth sciences.

Just back from China, where the university is establishing yet another arm, Professor Willis says that the Medway Campus is also working in the Medway Towns with local authorities and business people. "We hope to encourage businesses to use our services. There are superb laboratories and our new School of Engineering, which opened this year, is ideally based here in Medway, where so many people have great engineering skills."

DELLA MASON

The University's School of Engineering, in particular, is seen as an exciting catalyst for the Medway Towns. There are open days from next month. Details on 0800 005 000.

John Grigsby reports on the environment and the pressures posed by development. Will they ever get along?

Estuary wildlife at risk

Despite the international importance of its estuary as a wildlife habitat, the River Medway faces pressures which are as acute as those on any river in Britain.

The estuary is recognised as of international importance — it supports 70,000 waders and wildfowl in winter. But the wide channels and sheltered harbours, with their easy access to the North Sea which made it a natural home for the Royal Navy at Chatham and

add to the pressure on the Medway. As a navigable highway, the river is becoming increasingly busy. It handles about 20,500 commercial vessels a year, with a grand total of 24 million tonnes.

It falls within the Thames Gateway, the area between Greenwich and Sheerness which the Government hopes to revive, and where there is pressure for development along the banks to cope with derelict land and tackle the high rates of unemployment.

Recent government legislation with its stiff fines for pollution has changed that, but the river's various roles

Medway, you have also got issues such as sea level rise. When you build sea walls, the sea level rises and you get drowning of the coastal habitats.

The problem with a place like the Medway is that south-east England is packed with people and when they have got people pressures need to wildlife pressures, inevitably you get problems."

A new Medway Estuary and Swale Management plan which seeks to reconcile the conflicting interests will be published in February and Andrew Paley, estuary project officer for the North Kent Marshes Initiative, says that they will publish the final proposals in July. Although it will not be a statutory document, the various parties will be obliged to take it into consideration.

The local councils, the Sports Council, English Nature, the RSPB, the port companies, the fisheries and agricultural interests have taken part along with those whose livelihood depends on the river or who use it for pleasure.

Mr Paley says that five main areas of concern have been identified during the year and a half of discussion: sustainability, judging how much activity the area can take and how environmental habitats can be conserved and replaced; land use, including the use of brownfield sites; dredging; recreational access; and management and public education and awareness.

Medway Ports, the harbour authority for the 17.3 miles of river downstream from Allington Lock to the Medway Buoy, advises sailors how to avoid disturbing the wintering flocks of geese, ducks and waders which have bred in the far north of Europe.

Its jurisdiction covers the Swale, Queenborough Harbour and Milton and Faversham creeks. The rest of the 60-mile river is non-tidal. Its Marine Division, headed by captain Derek Stybles, the Harbour Master and a veteran of 34 years on the Medway, includes a river inspectorate whose responsibilities include monitoring all hazardous materials passing through the port, investigating and reporting on oil pollution, controlling yacht moorings and liaising with recreational groups and motor yachting organisations.

Users believe that the quality of the river is improving despite the pressures. Nigel Taylor, who manages Elm Haven marina which holds about 50 boats at Halling three miles from Rochester, says: "I think Medway Ports do a pretty good job, although it might be able to do more if it had a bit more money to police the river."

"When I first came here as a boat owner ten years ago, the smell at low tide was sometimes awful. The firms and

catches. But I have to admit that the river still does not look very clean."

Brian Clayton, membership secretary for the Medway River Users' Association, says: "Really the only beef we have is that rubbish collects below Allington Lock and never seems to get sorted out at all. Otherwise we believe that the river is clean and much less polluted than it was."

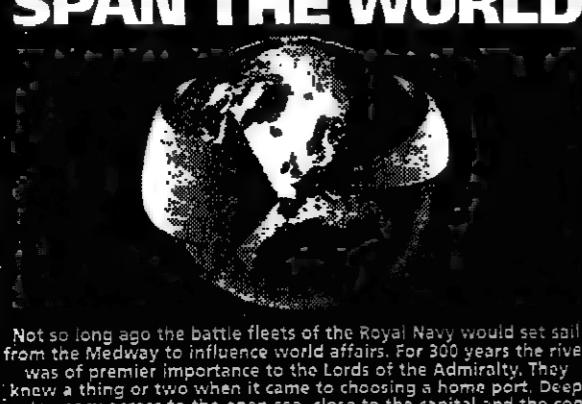
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A



■ DANCE

The Canadian choreographer Edouard Lock brings his apocalyptic vision back to Britain



■ THEATRE 1

An enchanting tale of artisan love, *Pottery*, is one of the highlights of a festival of Baltic arts

THE TIMES ARTS



■ THEATRE 2

A little more wit is called for in James Martin Charlton's new play in Croydon, *Groping in the Dark*



■ TOMORROW

Why the conductor Riccardo Chailly is returning to the LSO after an absence of 16 years

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Edouard Lock — "Meaning is not the foremost consideration"

CHRIS HARRIS

Fast-talking poet of dance

Allen Robertson talks to the choreographer Edouard Lock about his new work as La La La Human Steps starts a UK tour

Two of his dances, *Human Sex* and *New Demons*, became apocalyptic and furiously raucous icons of the 1980s. We could be forgiven for thinking that Edouard Lock is one of yesterday's men, yet nothing could be further from the truth. We may have lost sight of him, but that does not mean that his company has not been busy at every other point on the global compass. Britain is about the only country in Europe not to have seen Lock's work since 1990, when he staged David Bowie's *Sound and Vision* world tour.

Though Lock's exuberant style has been cooling down over the past decade, his company, La La La Human Steps, continues to retain its reputation as trendy, hip and happening. Now, at long last, La La La is back on these shores for a tour which opens in Birmingham tonight and culminates in London next month as the finale of this year's Dance Umbrella.

Lock's current work, *Z*, was premiered in Paris in early 1995, and has been touring ever since. The response has been as rapturous as ever, even though *Z* is something of a departure from his previous creations.

"It's a much more introverted piece than I think people remember me doing," Lock says. "With *Z*, audiences have a tendency to lean

forward. Before you tended to press your back against your seat and just give in to being frontal assault. Here, the public has to be a bit careful, a bit more attentive."

Lasting an hour and 45 minutes without interval, *Z* features a cast of eight dancers and two musicians, who play an original score for a pair of harpsichords composed by Britain's Gavin Bryars. "The reason I chose harpsichord," Lock says, "is that the harpsichord is oddly uninvolving. You can bang it or you can barely touch it and it still sounds the same. Even at its ultimate extreme it is oddly removed, like a loud, but uninteresting scream."

There is nothing loud or uninteresting about the soft-spoken but compellingly intense Lock. Born in Morocco to an Arab father and a Spanish mother, Lock has lived in Canada since he was three. Unlike most dancers and choreographers he did not start out with a passion for sport and had never been in a dance class until he was 19.

"For a very long time all I was interested in was writing. For many years I was carrying around a little typewriter with me and pounding away. I was showing

absolutely no interest in any of the performing arts."

The transition happened in an unpredictable way. In college I took one elective theatre course, which turned out to be a dance class. It was the first time in my life that I was working non-functionally with my body.

Right off the bat there was for me an evident link between structure in language and structure in movement. Poetry is a structural form, juxtaposing words next to other words. Immediately, it struck me as very similar to the way one would choose to string certain movements next to other movements.

"With both poetry and choreography, meaning is neither the first nor the foremost consideration. And once meaning is taken out, you are dealing with abstract laws; you are dealing with something you have to sense because there is no clear rule regarding the juxtaposition of these structures. If there were, you would simply make a book explaining how to write poetry and then you would be done. But, of course, there would be no more poetry."

The poetics of dancing took over immediately. In 1971 and 1975 I was everywhere, taking every class, ferreting out every obscure style. I could not afford to come to Europe, but I spent most of my time on the bus to New York and hunting down anything that moved."

Rather than taking up permanent residence in Manhattan, Lock opted to retain his base in Montreal. "I needed to be working and it didn't really matter where I was, so I followed the opportunities. In those days they were definitely more Canadian. That is where I had the options to work."

In 1980 he started his own company. A year later he met his muse, Louise Lecavalier. "She was absolutely focused on exploring dance that really was her prime concern. It was rare in Montreal to have that sort of intensity for something that did not pay a penny. She put an inordinate amount of effort into everything, and her discipline was certainly an attraction for me. It was — and is — a shared aesthetic. For both of us, nothing else mattered."

Lecavalier is indisputably the central character in *Z*. In addition to being vibrantly on stage herself,

Lecavalier is seen in a pair of films that are screened simultaneously side by side. In one she is 30. In the other she plays a 16-year-old.

"The films deal with a very clear subject-matter," says Lock. "They share common activities like eating and sleeping, measurable mundane things which everybody does. In one Louise is Louise. In the other she is a non-person."

"The thing I learnt from doing this is lonely ageing must be. Once Louise had the old woman's make-up on she simply disappeared. It is frightening how the film crew responded to her in a totally different manner. She just wasn't there."

"People clear away from you as soon as you're 35. In terms of selling things, in the photography of advertisements, you are just not there any more, you are not represented."

"Seeing that, I realised that there's something oddly virginal about coming into a room of people who do not care what they look like. All that sick old people care about is getting the coffee cup to their lips. They are not in the least interested in how their pinkie may or may not be curved."

■ *La La La Human Steps* is at the Birmingham Hippodrome today and tomorrow; at the King's Theatre, Glasgow on Friday and Saturday; at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, Oct 31-Nov 1; and the Peacock Theatre, London, Nov 5-6

THEATRE: A dazzling Baltic festival; an Immorality Play in Croydon; courtroom drama transfers from school hall to West End

Cast in Estonia

PEETER JALAKAS's quirky and inventive theatre show, *Estonian Games*. Wedding, was the perfect opener for the festival of Baltic arts, *Altered States*, at Watermans Arts Centre, west London. It used computer technology in a witty and sophisticated way, and gave a vivid flavour of Estonia's folkloric tradition to dispel any narrow-minded preconceptions you might have had about theatre from this small country.

The stage consists of a huge screen on which the director, seated at the front of the stage, plays a live computer game. At the top of the screen, Estonia's history is presented at the rate of one year every six seconds, starting in 1100. Invasions from Russians, Swedes, Germans, Danes or Crusaders are fought off or not: cities fall, are recaptured and fall again, a constant backdrop of turbulence to the stage action.

But ordinary life goes on. Jalakas chooses to present a traditional wedding, and immediately on the screen appears a group of severely-looking matrons in full traditional costume. First we hear the haunting sound of their runic chanting, then they step right through the screen: seven full-throated women from the Seu Choir, Leike.

History unravels as the wedding preparations continue until, in 1946, the Soviet invasion stamps out the country's newly won independence and 21,000 Estonians are deported. But by the time the bride finally takes her groom, it is 1991. Estonia is independent and, before we know it, we have crashed into the present and there we are, the audience on screen, happily applauding.

Equally enchanting, though in a dramatically different way, is Pritt Pedajas's story of artisan love, *Epp Pillarpert's Pottery*. In a ramshackle old pottery, the owner, a dour-looking fellow (Pritt Pedajas himself) finishes his last pot, bequeaths it to his young wife Epp, walks offstage and dies. Pedajas then plays exquisite ancient tunes on the kannel, a zither-like instrument. The bereaved Epp (Liina Ternossar) and her workers Milas (Jaan Reikor) and Jass (Heiko Soot) alleviate their days by breaking into heartwrenching songs to Pedajas's accompaniment.

Of course, both Milas and Jass are in love with Epp. Tension breaks out in hilarious rivalry between them. The acting is fine and funny, and a sense of Estonia's rural past is simply and effectively evoked. If the rest of the season continues as it began, it will prove to be one of Watermans' most memorable events.

CLARE BAYLEY



Fest of clay: Heiko Soot and Liina Ternossar in the witty *Epp Pillarpert's Pottery*

MARILYN KINGWILL



Fest of clay: Heiko Soot and Liina Ternossar in the witty *Epp Pillarpert's Pottery*

A fable less than fabulous

THE TITLE has its sexual meaning, and more than a furtive grope goes on in the warehouse at the frige of town. Here, excited by Ecstasy, patrons lose any remaining inhibitions that stop them satisfying their desires. But James Martin Charlton probably wants his title to be taken philosophically. All systems are malevolent, especially those to do with politics and religion; the longing to find a comforting system is immutable and we must grope, in the dark, as we shape a personal standard of conduct.

The play has to mean this, and I am with the author in his general standpoint and in many of the utterances his odd characters make as the plot zigzags them this way, that way and back again. But he has done himself few favours in the form he has chosen to show how his protagonist, named Saint, goes bumbling between a dull marriage and the hedonism of the warehouse, embracing his employer's son, but too confused to know what to do next.

Charlton's previous full-length play, *Fat Souls*, was an exceptionally promising work, showing how a fat lump of a girl braved the sneers of fellow workers, found happiness, lost it, and maybe in the end found comfort tending her gay lover's garden. Some characters wore masks, and the dialogue frequently turned into verse, but these decidedly uncommon features for a modern play were employed with adroitness and pungency.

In this new play, presented by Friendly Fire Production

and directed by Charlton, Saint (Tim Kane) is a painter taken up by Lord Stone (Richard Earthy) to teach his son the useful disciplines of art. The dramatic function of this lusty youngster (Sebastian Knapp) is to represent instinctive resistance to his father, who is fond of giving Hitler salutes and appears to be running the country.

The lad goes off to the warehouse, which is run by Baron Sate, who could well be Satan in his long leather coat and top hat, unfamiliar accessories for a king's son, and who turns out to be Lord Stone's rejected brother. Certainly we are not watching a naturalistic play here, but nor are we, in the first half, watching a well-organised or persuasively argued one. The dream sequences, the character of the warehouse, embracing his employer's son, but too confused to know what to do next.

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However, what it has done is inspire a witty set from Zoe Gingell: a panorama of doors, sober and Palladian at one end, but gradually melting into sinuous curves until the other end is a Hellgate flanked with lascivious beauties. The play itself could have done with more of such wit.

JEREMY KINGSTON

MARILYN KINGWILL



Facing off: Thomas Murphy and Euan Macnaughton

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Never the Sinner Arts Theatre

ON PAPER John Logan's 1985 play *Never the Sinner* has all the tools to explore a fascinating slice of real-life macabre.

His subject, the motiveless murder of a 14-year-old boy by two affluent students in Chicago in 1923, initiated one of the trials of the century and inspired Hitchcock's 1948 film version of Patrick Hamilton's play *Rope*.

What made this crime so disturbing was that Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb murdered Robert Franks with a chisel for no apparent reason other than a warped obsession with Nietzsche's theories about the master race. Having spent a year conducting his own research into the case, Logan stitched together original court extracts that tell a chilling story of two idealistic teenage homosexuals who fantasise about being intellectually beyond the reach of any moral code.

Unfortunately Philip Swan's production of *Never the Sinner* at the Arts Theatre is only remarkable for being the first play to transfer to the West End. The cast, all from King's College School, Wimbledon, battle their way through the documentary format with more courage than conviction. There are seeds of talent, but the show is really sustained by the sheer novelty of their amateur endeavour.

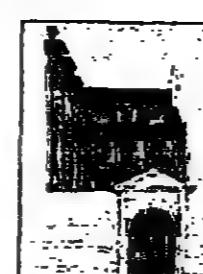
As the play shuffles between the trial and the events leading to the murder, Adam Chalk's sullen Leopold and Daniel Pirrie's gregariously camp Loeb smoke cigarettes, talk up their superiority and interact like bank clerks who read dictionaries in their spare time. First-night nerves may have dampened the sexual chemistry. But the sly amorality

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

CHRISTOPHER



■ VISUAL ART 1
Picasso painted by Picasso in 1907: Paris celebrates the obsessive portraits of a 20th-century giant



■ VISUAL ART 2
... while Raymond Mason's 50-year love affair with the French capital is showcased in his London exhibition

THE TIMES ARTS



■ CONCERT
After the Three Tenors, London welcomes the European debut of America's Three Sopranos



■ RECORDING
Chopin's Waltzes: hear them at their best, courtesy of this week's 'Building a Library' recommendation

VISUAL ART: Richard Cork on a monumental Picasso exhibition in Paris; plus London galleries

Portraits of the exorcist

In terms of the subjects he chose to paint, Picasso was surprisingly traditional. Even at the height of his revolutionary attempt to overhaul the language of modern art, he resisted the new, machine-age motifs favoured by so many of his avant-garde contemporaries. Time and again, portraits and still life claimed Picasso's attention. And of the two, portraiture lay closer to the centre of his protean imagination.

Picasso never lost his youthful fascination with the faces and bodies he saw around him. Indeed, his appetite for portraits became voracious as he grew older. While spurning the whole notion of an officially commissioned likeness, he never tired of scrutinising his wives, mistresses, children and friends. They may not have recognised the drastic distortions he unleashed on their features. But there is no mistaking his obsessive involvement with them, and a monumental Paris exhibition called *Picasso and the Portrait* contains an overwhelming number of his most fiercely impassioned works.

The survey commences in a wintry mood. Only two paintings are hung in the circular vastness of the first room, and they both belong to the Blue Period at its most melancholy. Free from the sentimentality which so often marred his work then, they show no desire to flatter. One, a 1901 self-portrait of the bearded, pallid artist buttoned up against the cold, is unexpectedly rough in execution. The other, a 1904 portrait of Carlos Valdivia, shows an old woman staring out guardedly from the shelter of her dark hood.

Before 1907, however, nothing really prepares us for the violence Picasso turned on himself in that year. Here, at a time when *Les Demoiselles d'Avignon* heralded the birth of Cubism, he reduces his own features to a scaffold of crude, black lines. The flat hair stamped at a brusque diagonal across his forehead seems to proclaim an angry, resolute mood. His elongated nose has a phallic obtrusiveness.

This is the portrait of a 26-

year-old artist hellbent on attacking worn-out ways of painting, in order to arrive at a new forcefulness. Even as he moved into the great, investigative period of Cubism, though, this complex young innovator proved reluctant to abandon the time-honoured practice of portraiture. Some of the most severe and apparently impersonal figure paintings from these years are, in fact, based on specific people. Fernande Olivier, with whom he lived at the time, is first seen as the subject of tender images during the Rose Period. Then, in 1908, she is transformed into the stern and sculptural *Woman with a*

'His detestation of his wife generates splendid pictures'

Fan, stripped of all detail and as grave as an enthroned prothesis.

The most impressive wall of Cubist exhibits turns out to display three portraits of dealers. All painted in 1910, they are marvellously distinct characterisations. Wilhelm Uhde, one of the first to admire the much-maligned *Demoiselles*, emerges from Picasso's splintering of form as a chiselled, flinty and frowning presence with puritanically pursed lips. He could hardly be more removed from the earthiness of the bearded, brooding Ambroise Vollard, who had given Picasso his first one-man show. He looks sulky, and the Cubist fragmentation cannot disguise his bear-like bulk. He seems weighty in brain as well as body, and contrasts completely with the portrait of Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler. A shrewd champion of the Cubist cause, Kahnweiler is subjected to a greater degree of formal shattering than the other two dealers. With a playful smile

curving across his face like a pencil moustache, Kahnweiler seems the most mischievous of the three men.

There was little room for portraits then, and they only reappear in quantity after Picasso met his first wife, Olga, in 1917. A dancer with Diaghilev's Russian Ballet, she appears controlled to the point of iciness in a neoclassical painting produced soon afterwards. Based on a photograph of Olga in the studio, it is one of Picasso's smoothest and least convincing performances.

It is a relief when the marriage begins to collapse, for Picasso's growing detestation of his wife generates some splendidly energetic heads. Olga becomes a predatory monster, snarling with fangs ready to bite. By the time he painted the large *Seated Bath* in 1930, she is nothing more than a skeletal apparition on the beach.

This is portraiture as revenge and exorcism, the work of a man now prepared to lose himself in a voluptuous affair with the young blonde Marie-Thérèse Walter. All the Olga-inspired venom drains away for a while, as the lustful Picasso turns a woman less than half his age into his new muse. She inspired the most erotic nudes he ever produced, and in a headlong painting called *The Mirror* he seems to reverse Velázquez's *Rokeby Venus* to further his own sensual purposes. Instead of lying with her back to us like the Venus, Marie-Thérèse is shown from the front with global breasts exposed. And rather than following Velázquez's example by reflecting her face in the mirror, Picasso flings the glass with his lover's provocative buttocks.

To judge by the rapturous rhythms of so many undulating Marie-Thérèse-inspired paintings in 1932, this was the year when their relationship peaked. Three years later, he met the Surrealist photographer Dora Maar and embarked on a sharply contrasting set of images. In most of his alliances with women, Picasso's portraits proceed

from initial tenderness to terminal ugliness. But Dora's do not conform to this remorseless pattern. As early as 1937, she disintegrates into the fractured anguish of *Weeping Woman*, where the jagged handkerchief threatens to compound her misery by slicing into her eyeballs.

Since *Guernica* was painted in the same year, we cannot dissociate this woman's distress from the lacerating, protesting grief of her counterparts in Picasso's epic pictorial assault on the horrors of the Spanish Civil War. Nor do we know whether he intended *Weeping Woman* to be a portrait, as opposed to a personification of bereavement. At times, I wondered whether this otherwise magnificent exhibition limited the

meaning of certain paintings by underlining the identity of the people on whom they are based. Picasso worked from memory or photographs rather than sitters, and these astoundingly inventive images flouted all preconceived notions about what a portrait might be.

But there are moments when he undoubtedly focuses on the personality and appearance of his subject. The affectionate, vulnerable 1942 *Portrait of Dora Maar* is one of them, and the close-up paintings of his two children Claude and Paloma provide another example a decade later. His last wife Jacqueline is, however, the woman whose likeness he honours most frequently.

Throughout the experiments he makes in these final years, her large-eyed and imperious features are easy to identify. So are the trio of late self-portrait drawings that bring the show to such a harrowing conclusion. Made in his nineties, they are utterly unsparing. Picasso now sees his mottled and decaying face as a death's head, and confronts the imminence of extinction with the same toughness he had inflicted on his youthful features back in 1907. Despite all the startling stylistic upheavals his work underwent in the decades between, this hard resolution remained unaltered at the end.

• Picasso and the Portrait is at the Grand Palais, Paris (01 33 14 44 13 17 17) until Jan 20



The Mirror (1932) celebrates Picasso's affair with the young Marie-Thérèse Walter

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AROUND THE GALLERIES

AMONG Raymond Mason's elaborate, frequently grotesque sculptures there are a number of low reliefs of architectural prospects, mainly Parisian. They have achieved less notice than his crowded scenes of human figures caught in moments of everyday pleasure or exceptional pain — for obvious reasons, since works such as Mason's evocation of a mining disaster, *A Tragedy in the North*, compel a strong reaction, whether of love or detestation. The purely architectural panoramas, on the other hand, are, if not more conventional (for who else is doing anything remotely like them today?), at least less emotionally compelling.

One such, *The Louvre, The Richelieu Wing*, is the centrepiece of Mason's new show at Marlborough Fine Art, a culminating tribute to his 50-year devotion to the city. But the rest of the show comes as a complete surprise. One would assume, of course, that Mason must have made many preliminary studies of the buildings around him in order to record them in polyester resin. But who would have expected to see this succession of meticulously executed watercolour townscapes (along with a couple in oils), testifying to Mason's absolute obsession with detail? *Marlborough Fine Art*, 6 Albemarle Street, W1 (0171-629 5161). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-12.30pm, until Nov 9.

□ THERE are few better books in the business than Chris Beetles's for discerning the merits of neglected or forgotten artists who would now, rather mean-

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR



Hunt's *Château de Crussol*, Valence (1927)

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A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3



Chopin's Waltzes Reviewed by Stephen Paine

CHOPIN authorised only eight of his waltzes for publication and was concerned that the others should not circulate without his consent. The "extras" comprise early works together with a smaller number of pieces from his maturity that he gave to friends and initiates as presents and *pièces d'album*. Posterty has rightly judged that he would be the poorer without them, whatever Chopin's wishes may have been. There are more than 20 CDs currently available which include the eight published waltzes plus a varying number of the others, usually six but sometimes as many as ten or eleven.

The waltzes inhabit the salon and elevate its conventions into sophisticated art-form. and they reveal a lot about the performer, who must waltz them in his head as he plays. They are merciless in showing up the limitations of an interpreter's personality, and not just in the rhythm department. Some good players keep your attention for a while and then become predictable, or forget that virtuosity should always serve the exuberance of the dance.

In *Dinu Lipatti's* still unsurpassed studio recording of 1950 one is hardly aware of detail any more, only of Chopin's voice (EMI CDCD 69802-2, £9.99). Alfred Cortot said of his former pupil that he was "perfection". Cortot's searing oratory was not always so

immaculately realised in keyboard terms, but the six-CD set (if you can run to it) of his historic Chopin recordings, which includes the same 14 waltzes as Lipatti played, is indispensable (EMI CZS 7 67392, £22 budget price).

Modern recordings to put beside these are not too plentiful. At budget price, Philip Fowke is personable, nicely recorded, and he captures a balletic lightness and grace that eludes the many players who over-project (Classics for Pleasure CD-CFPSD 4790, a two-CD album also including the sonatas, budget price).

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CHOICE 1

Albert Finney stars in the play that wowed Paris, Yasmina Reza's Art

VENUE: All week at Wyndham's Theatre

CHOICE 2

Gene Wilder is in Neil Simon's comedy Laughter on the 23rd Floor

VENUE: All week at the Queen's Theatre

THE TIMES TUESDAY OCTOBER 22 1996

OPERA

The ENO revival of David Pountney's *Cunning Little Vixen* does not quite live up to expectations



Chichester's Talking Heads comes to London with Maggie Smith

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Comedy Theatre

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

House full, returns only

2 more seats available

Seats at prices

£10-£12

£12-£14

£14-£16

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£18-£20

£20-£22

£24-£26

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OCTOBER 22 1996
THE TIMES TUESDAY OCTOBER 22 1996
LAW 41

The ENO revival of
David Pountney's
Counting Little
When does not
get five up to
excuses

What it says

THE TIMES TUESDAY OCTOBER 22 1996

LAW

'This is only the start'



Lord Mackay of Clashfern, above, explains proposals for a better-targeted, best-value legal aid system



A woman approaches T.V. Edwards, East End solicitors, in search of legal aid: is the present system out of control?

The latest figures for legal aid spending show an increase of 10 per cent in the year to August. The nature of the present scheme makes it impossible precisely to control the amount spent. But what is certain is that we cannot afford to go on spending more and more on legal aid.

Like the members of the public polled in a recent Law Society survey, I believe that legal aid plays a vital role in helping people to get justice. But there must be radical change to create a better targeted and more flexible legal aid system that can meet the challenges of the future.

In July we set out in the White paper, *Striking the Balance*, our plans for reforming legal aid in England and Wales. Since then we have been laying the foundations for our reforms. We intend to make progress in careful stages, piloting the changes and consulting widely to make sure that we get the details right.

Our reforms have four main objectives: to control the total cost of legal aid, to increase value for money, to target appropriate services on the most deserving cases, and to ensure fair treatment for everyone involved. We will do this in several ways.

For the first time, legal aid will have a predetermined budget. We are widening the scope of this scheme to bring in new types of services, such as advice agencies. We can do this only because the prospect of controlling the overall cost allows us to do so.

Legal aid will be targeted to take account of national priorities and local needs, on the advice of independent regional legal services committees. Most legally aided services will be provided under contracts. Budget and contracts will be flexible and the contracting process will be organised so that money cannot simply run out.

There will be a new test for deciding whether civil cases should get legal aid.

We also propose a package of changes to the financial qualifications for legal aid. These will ensure that the scheme is fair to those on legal aid, their opponents and the taxpayer. More people will be expected to pay towards their cases. This will encourage them to think carefully and responsibly about the action they intend to take. But people who cannot afford to pay for legal aid will still receive the support they need from the public purse.

Our plans are not designed to cut the present level of spending on legal aid. Rather, they will ensure that available resources stretch further to help more people and are targeted at those with the greatest need, as well as giving control from year to year of the amount to be spent.

The White Paper set out a four to five-year programme for implementing the changes. This involves developing contracts to cover all the different types of legal aid, as well as a series of measures immediately to improve the operation of the current scheme. We can do much of this under the existing Legal Aid Act, and work has already begun.

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The Legal Aid Board has been piloting contracts with voluntary advice agencies for more than a year. In August it published for consultation its proposals for the second phase of that pilot. By December, the board will be in a position to invite formal applications and new contracts will be in place during the first half of 1997.

These will be followed by contracts with private solicitors firms to provide legally aided advice and assistance. Earlier this month, the board appointed researchers to assist with this pilot, and it intends to publish proposals early next year. The first contracts should begin around the middle of 1997.

The pilot for contracts with family mediators will follow much the same timetable. The proposals should be available for consultation by Christmas.

The board has also already begun work on two more pilots. These will look at one-off contracts for very expensive cases, starting with multiparty actions, and contracts to provide duty solicitor cover at police stations and magistrates' courts.

A system of graduated standard fees for Crown Court advocates has been settled and will come into force in January. It comes after the successful introduction of standard fees in the Crown Court in 1986 and the magistrates' courts in 1993.

In July I started consultation on standard fees for advocates in civil cases and litigators in family cases. Standard fees help not only to control costs under the existing scheme as an interim measure but also to meet any desire to provide a quicker, more certain payment system. They also prepare the way for the introduction of fixed-price contracts.

I have introduced measures to strengthen the arrangements for means testing, apparently wealthy applicants for legal aid. A special investigations unit is already operating in civil cases and will expand to cover criminal cases.

We had made a good start on a long and complex programme. The activities I have described are only the beginning but they show the Government is committed to careful progress and consultation. We remain determined to make the necessary changes to the legal aid scheme and look forward to pressing ahead with the reforms.

• The author is Lord Chancellor.

Equality creeps nearer



ham office to add to its regional network.

Aid to victims

A PIONEERING insurance scheme to cover legal costs in medical negligence cases has been developed by the underwriting agents, Litigation Protection, in conjunction with Action for Victims of Medical Accidents.

The scheme provides up to £100,000 of cover to protect against having to pay the legal costs of an opponent when cases are taken on a "no win, no fee" conditional basis. Cases are screened by AVMA's referral panel.

Date set

A DATE has finally been set for the long-awaited inquiry by the Home Affairs Select Committee into Freemasonry in the police and judiciary. Oral evidence will be taken in January and written submissions must be in this year.

Chris Mullin, the Labour MP, caused a stir last year when he demanded the inquiry. Some observers saw the committee's agreement as a sop to Mr Mullin, who didn't see many of his proposals for reforming judicial appointments included in the MPs' final report.

Lost to golf

LARGE numbers of City solicitors who would like to be judges are being lost to the "golf course" because of current recruitment procedures. A survey by the Law Society found that 70 per cent of City solicitors would be interested, but only if civil justice reforms proposed by Lord Woolf enabled them to take up more suitable positions, with more flexibility in training requirements.

At present, they have to do up to four years as a part-time recorder, nearly always on criminal work — an area most City lawyers don't work in. Martin Roberts, who compiled the survey, said: "It is a tragedy that the large pool of highly talented specialists likely to be retiring from City practices in their fifties will be heading for the golf course instead of the judge's bench."

SCRIVENOR



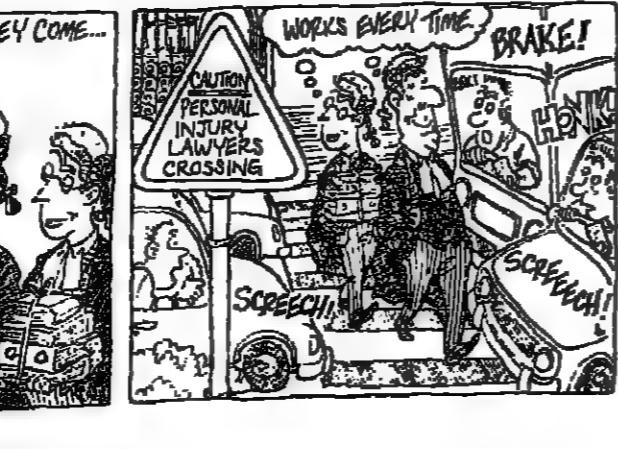
Hester on Legal Democrat

STUART & FRANCIS

CHRISTOPHER CLARKE, QC, and 16 other members of his set at Brick Court, off Fleet Street, London, are celebrating after spectacular recent successes with their sponsored horses, Legal Democrat and Legal Jaguar. At Wembley they achieved two firsts: Legal Democrat won the Prix St Georges one night and the Intermediaire the next, and finished second in the Novice Class at the National. Younger, came third in the Novice Class at the National Championships three weeks ago. Both horses are trained and ridden by Carl Hester, the British Olympic rider.

This was the only British win in dressage. William Wood, a member of chambers, said: "What was most satisfactory was that Legal Democrat was winning against Dutch and German opposition, which has been beating us in recent years. We are all hoping that with this kind of result, and with proper backing, British riders and horses will be properly competitive at the British championships in Germany next summer and European championships in Sydney in 2000. If we can set some kind of precedent, and bring other lawyers and professionals into the sport, it will have been worthwhile."

QUEEN'S COUNSEL



Judging the right to a fair trial

Yesterday in Strasbourg, the European Court of Human Rights heard oral argument in *Gregory v The United Kingdom*, an important case concerning alleged racial bias by a member of a jury.

In November 1991, David Gregory was tried at Manchester Crown Court on charges of robbery. Gregory is black. While the jury were considering their verdict, one juror sent a note to the judge, it said: "Jury showing racial overtones. One member to be excused." The judge redirected the jury to decide the case on the evidence, and to put any prejudice out of their minds. Three hours later, the jury convicted the defendant by a majority verdict — ten votes to two. He was jailed for six years.

Gregory contends that there was a breach of Article 6 (1) of the European Convention on Human Rights, which guarantees the right to a fair hearing before an impartial tribunal. He argues that the note was evidence that the jury was not impartial, and that the judge should either have discharged the jury or, at least, made inquiries as to the facts.

Racism, in a jury or elsewhere, is no laughing matter. The serious point the European Court will be considering in Gregory's case is whether Article 6 (1) obliges the trial judge to investigate a complaint of racism, or whether other steps may suffice to ensure that the tribunal's impartiality is maintained.

The court is likely to conclude that, depending on the facts of a particular case, Article 6 (1) can be satisfied by something less than a judicial investigation of alleged racism. The defect in *Remili* was that the domestic court chose to ignore the matter, without considering the evidence submitted to it, on "the purely formal ground" that it was not able to take note of events alleged to have occurred outside its presence.

By contrast, in *Gregory* the trial judge took immediate steps to emphasise to the jurors their obligation to decide the case on the evidence. Though this (of itself) could not ensure that each juror would act properly, there was no further incident prior to the delivery of the verdict.

The failure of other recent challenges to the impartiality of British juries illustrates the difficulties faced by Gregory.

In February, in *Hardiman*, the European Commission of Human Rights rejected a complaint by a convicted defendant that a trial had been unfair because a female juror sent a note to counsel for one of the other defendants (who was acquitted) asking him to have a drink with her. And in June, the European Court held in *Pullar* (again by five votes to four) that there had been no breach of Article 6 (1) in a criminal trial in Perth, Tayside, where a junior employee of a company served as a juror even though one of his firm's partners was a principal prosecution witness.

• The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

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BHIM
SEARCH & SELECTION

Can the law stop stalkers?

Action is easy to promise but may be less easy to achieve. Neil Addison reports on the Government's proposals

A series of high-profile "stalking" prosecutions has pushed the crime right up the political agenda. Michael Howard has now pledged new laws to tackle the problem.

The Home Secretary told a conference organised by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust last week that he plans two new criminal offences: the use of words or behaviour, on more than one occasion, which would put a victim in fear of violence (to carry up to five years' jail or an unlimited fine or both); or the use of words or behaviour on more than one occasion which would cause the victim to be harassed, alarmed or distressed (carrying up to six months' jail or a £5,000 fine or both).

In addition, he plans a new civil remedy, when words or behaviour are used more than once that would cause the victim to be harassed, alarmed or distressed. Courts would have power to make restraining orders after conviction of either of the two criminal offences and a breach of the order itself would be a criminal offence.

Action is easy to promise but may be less easy to attain. The Government has recognised the difficulties of making stalking a specific offence. A broadly drawn offence could catch legitimate journalists, lebists or even divorced fathers trying to see their children, while a narrowly drawn offence would make little improvement on the existing law.

Will the offences be so widely cast that they catch the kind of behaviour that does not amount to stalking? In both cases, there must be an intention to cause fear or alarm, or circumstances must be such that a reasonable person would realise that fear or alarm would result.

But there may be borderline cases in which behaviour is distress-

sing to one person but not to others. The creation of a tort of "molestation" enabling stalking victims to obtain injunctions in theory seems a good idea. But stalking victims can obtain injunctions already; certainly Diana, Princess of Wales had no problem. However, the victim has to obtain the injunction him or herself and has to pay for the lawyers. For most victims of stalking, the financial and emotional cost may be unaffordable.

The police find civil injunctions frustrating since they usually have no power of arrest for a breach. The Government's proposals suggest the possibility of making breach of a "molestation" injunction an arrestable criminal offence and allowing the police the power to apply for these injunctions. But this raises the question, why only this type of injunction? People with equally valid but different injunctions will be entitled to wonder why the police are not enforcing their injunctions.

The Government's basic idea of using court orders is sensible because these can be precisely tailored to deal with individual circumstances. But the civil courts do not have the necessary safeguards regarding admissibility of evidence or trial by jury; nor do police/CPS prepare their evidence in a way required by the civil courts. Stalking is a criminal law public order problem and should be dealt with by the criminal law agencies, not the civil law.

A good model is provided by S.810 of the Canadian Criminal Code. When Canadian police receive complaints of threatening or stalking behaviour, they can apply to a magistrate for the offender to be made subject to a "peace bond". The police make the application and the Crown Prosecutor handles the court appearances. The victim is treated as a victim not a party to litigation.



Perry Southall: terrorised for 18 months by a convicted rapist

A peace bond is essentially an injunction ordering the offender not to contact the victim again and prohibiting him or her from going near the house or workplace of the victim. They are orders of the criminal not the civil courts and are governed by the criminal code, not the civil law.

They do not count as a conviction but they are recorded with the police and if the offender breaks the terms of the order, then he or she can be arrested and prosecuted for the specific offence of breaching the criminal court's order.

We are not short of criminal offences in England and Wales.

Perhaps what we need is not another offence, but a new system, similar to that in Canada, for dealing with persistent objectionable behaviour. Giving magistrates' courts specific power to grant restraining orders (not injunctions) where magistrates are satisfied that police have reasonable fears for someone's safety would be a sensible way of dealing with such situations. Giving magistrates and Crown Courts power to grant such orders as part of their normal sentencing powers and making breach of such orders a specific arrestable criminal offence would also be sensible.

• The author is a barrister in private practice.

Chris Sallon, QC, and Nick Lavender on CPS prosecutors

Nikita Khrushchev once observed that politicians will promise to build bridges even where there is no river. The Government's declared intention to extend rights of audience in the Crown Court to lawyers employed by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) is both an empty and dangerous political gesture. The impartiality of the criminal justice system would be at risk and there is no justification for change.

There has been a state prosecution service in England for ten years. The CPS was set up to prepare all prosecutions for trial, and to conduct prosecutions in the magistrates' court. The Government then believed that in the Crown Court, where serious criminal matters are tried before juries, cases should be presented by barristers instructed to represent the prosecution because they brought an objectivity and independence to cases which state employees were unlikely to have.

Nevertheless, the CPS soon started asking for the right to conduct Crown Court prosecutions. It was argued that this would raise the low level of morale within the service, created by chronic underfunding, inadequate levels of staffing and a high rate of attrition in a burgeoning bureaucracy.

While these problems persist, recent changes in the law relating to the disclosure of evidence to the defence make a prosecutor's independence crucial. The Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 is heavily biased towards the prosecution and allows it to decide what material should be disclosed to the defence, with no sanctions if a prosecutor fails to act properly. The trial judge's power to supervise the discovery has all but been removed.

This diluted duty of disclosure is bound to give rise to a conflict of interest, since the performance of CPS employees is subject to annual appraisal and their career prospects depend at least in part on their "success rate". This was

If justice is not seen to be fair



Barbara Mills, QC: change

certainly the view of the Circuit Judges, which concluded: "We do not see how an employed advocate can avoid being placed in the position at some time of having to consider whether his future employment would be imperilled by full disclosure."

Many feel that the CPS would do better to concentrate on the job it was set up to do. Research conducted for the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice found in 1993 that 8,000 cases taken to the Crown Court were dismissed by the judge in circumstances where the dismissal was "certainly or possibly foreseeable". Even the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Conduct has expressed concern about the

performance of the CPS. It has advised no fewer than three times against allowing CPS employees to appear in the Crown Court.

Barbara Mills, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, has consistently pressed for change, promising that CPS advocates will be used according to the criteria of cost, efficiency and experience. But as Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, Labour's Shadow Lord Chancellor, pointed out at last month's Bar Conference, no analysis comparing the cost of in-house lawyers with that of independent advocates has been undertaken. As for efficiency and experience, it might be wiser to await the results of a survey by the National Audit Office on the performance of the CPS, due to come before Parliament next year.

Meanwhile, the position in the CPS goes from bad to worse. Earlier this year all CPS lawyers were offered voluntary redundancy. This has resulted in a further reduction of staff levels, already perilously low. In May a motion passed by the CPS section of the Association of First Division Civil Servants expressed the view that it could no longer properly serve the interests of justice because of the way the CPS is being run. It has also commissioned a MORI poll intended to look at, among other things, morale within the service. This has been opposed by the DPP who feels it would be unrepresentative and undermine a poll of her own. This has led to a formal complaint by the director of MORI to Sir Robin Butler, Head of the Home Civil Service.

The final decision — believed to be imminent — rests with five senior judges: the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice, the Master of the Rolls, the Vice-Chancellor and the President of the Family Division. One hopes they will not approve a proposal which could have profound and adverse consequences for the independence of our criminal justice system.

• The authors are practising barristers.

Fresh vistas for paralegals

A LEADING law firm has opened up a career structure for paralegals which will scrap the dead-end job of "managing clerk". Frances Gibb writes.

Davies Arnold Cooper has developed a scheme to allow legal executives the chance to be involved as partners, even though they are not qualified as solicitors. Where the work of a legal executive is rated to be that of which would earn a qualified solicitor partner-

ship status, then they will be remunerated at a higher level and take part in partners' meetings.

The scheme creates a structured career path for non-solicitors starting with trainee legal executive, progressing through legal executive and senior legal executive to associate and senior associate.

Law Society rules prohibit non-solicitors being in partnership with solicitors. But this should not be used as an "excuse for artificial-

ly restraining those capable of markedly adding value to our practice", David McIntosh, senior partner, says.

One of the traditional routes to becoming a solicitor used to be through being an articled clerk and qualifying later on — a career path followed by a number of solicitors at Davies Arnold Cooper. About 25 legal executives or trainee executives have already been integrated on to the new career path.

SENIOR APPOINTMENTS

We are currently witnessing a substantial increase in senior level appointments, by which we mean from five years qualified up to partner level. The demand for senior assistants and partners is particularly acute in the areas of corporate finance, capital markets, asset finance, commercial property and corporate tax.

The firms who are looking to recruit at this level include many of the top twenty firms, a substantial number of US legal practices and the London offices of the major provincial firms. The rewards and prospects on offer are substantial, for example, a US practice based in London will pay £120,000 for four year qualified corporate finance lawyers from a top five City practice and a leading provincial practice with a London office will offer immediate partnership to a banking lawyer from a top ten City firm who can

demonstrate a general banking background. It is important to emphasise that firms do not require a client following which is a substantial change from twelve months ago.

1996/1997 offers a window of opportunity to senior assistants or partners who wish to secure a significant career change.

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To £Market Rate

Make provision for your old age, pensions lawyers with 2-4 years' ppe, by joining this top 10 City law firm. Not only will it make your reputation, standard of clients and pay shoot upwards, but it will also give you the chance to develop stand-alone work, as well as corporate support. Ref: T25008

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If you want to be a top corporate lawyer, then you have to join a top corporate firm. And it just so happens that this top 10 City firm is on the look out for quality corporate lawyers with 1-6 years' ppe for a job that offers top work, top pay and a great chance to progress. Ref: T11919

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The amazing opportunity that is in-house is more than amply demonstrated by this job at a major international investment bank. The pay, conditions and work for a banking lawyer with 1-6 years' ppe are unbeatable. Knowledge of ISDA and experience of derivatives would help. Ref: T25469

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For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Stephen Rodney, Emma Cowell or Adrian Fox (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-354 3079 or 0171-427 3674 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. E-mail: stephen@qdrc.demon.co.uk



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A well-organised and planned recruitment drive has resulted in the recent addition of several high profile senior lawyers at this well known medium sized City firm. As part of this structured growth, a senior employment specialist with a City background is now sought. This is a strong department and certainly not a pure service department, acting mainly for multinational corporations and banks. Ref: T10808G

Status or Experience?

One of our candidates, three years qualified and specialising in IT work with a little known firm in the Midlands, was offered a position with a substantial niche IT firm that would give him exactly the sort of work he wanted. The job was ideal, and yet he hesitated. Why? He was reluctant to give up his permanent status. He'd already been appointed salaried partner at his present firm, and would have to join the new firm as an assistant solicitor. It meant a lot to him, naturally, to be a partner, and even the chance to handle better quality work with a more respected firm was enough to compensate for the loss of status.

To us it seemed obvious that the move would be to his advantage. Salaried partnership with a small firm two years after qualifying does not carry serious weight in the job market. It is a guarantee of success, high income, or security. We put these thoughts to him, stressing the simple point that the only true security in any profession comes from developing your expertise in a particular area and building a reputation on it. Status must reflect genuine expertise, otherwise it risks being short-lived — the proverbial house built on sand.

In the end, he decided to join the niche firm. If there was to be any loss of status he reckoned it would only be temporary and that a partnership in the new firm would be worth more than the one in the old. Michael Chambers

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SHORT-TERM OPPORTUNITIES

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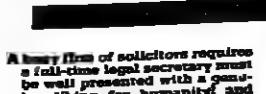
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RACING: CANADIAN TRACK GIVES EUROPEANS GROUNDS FOR OPTIMISM IN BREEDERS' CUP

Woodbine provides home comforts

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT AT WOODBINE, TORONTO

ANY partisan heart would skip a beat at the configuration of Woodbine racecourse on the outskirts of this city. It is almost as if the links course at St Andrews had been transplanted for the purposes of the Ryder Cup, immediately handing a precious advantage to the European team. So there can be no excuse for anything other than a strong European showing at the Breeders' Cup meeting here on Saturday.

However, if the American authorities recognised as much when allocating this annual equine pageant to Canada for the first time, it will also acknowledge the filip for the Breeders' Cup series in general. Toronto has wholeheartedly embraced the concept. The city is alive to the event, which marks a welcome contrast to the ambivalence of New Yorkers 12 months ago. And the plain truth is that the \$11 million raceday could do with a shot in the arm.

The willingness of the locals

to please will ensure that connections of the 12-strong European raiding party — there are nine from Britain — will take fond memories into Saturday. But success depends entirely on results. Ten of the team will compete on the recently renovated turf course, a 1½-mile circuit with gentle turns and a two-furlong run-in. Coupled this with a climate

FROM RICHARD EVANS

Nap: FLAGSHIP (3½ Chepstow)
Next best: Montserrat (4.00 Chepstow)

akin to autumnal Britain and the portents could hardly be more favourable. As if to confirm the impression, Mark Of Esteem, favourite for the Mile, had his price trimmed to 11-10 from 11-8 by Coral yesterday.

There are other, less peripheral links between this venue

and its British visitors. Woodbine is expecting to eclipse its record attendance, when 40,300 joined the Queen for the 1973 renewal of the Queen's Plate. And Charles Taylor, the primary influence behind Woodbine's successful bid for the Breeders' Cup, could hardly be more of a European. His father, the legendary E. P. Taylor, bred Northern Dancer, the stallion whose influence on the development of European racing remains unparalleled.

Bruce Walker, director of publicity at Woodbine, yesterday paid warm tribute to Taylor's efforts. "He has been instrumental in helping to establish the Breeders' Cup and in securing the event for Woodbine. We were one of the first tracks to apply when the Breeders' Cup was mooted some 15 years ago. We knew we had little chance but we wanted them to know we were supportive. Charles is extremely proud that the day has finally arrived. He is very ill;

earlier in the year there was a fear he may not have been with us, but he looks great now."

Northern Dancer's legacy within Europe is evident in that half of the 12 challengers are his direct descendants. With conditions so advantageous, much will depend on the horses enjoying an uneventful journey. They were due to arrive late last night, but the inaugural Breeders' Cup challenger from Japan, Taiki Blizzard, has been enroute since Wednesday.

Taiki Blizzard is due to clash with Cigar in the \$4 million Classic, but that, it seems, serves only to inspire. "We are afraid of no horse and we will be very confident if the ground is fast on Saturday," Nobutaka Tada, racing manager to the five-year-old's owner, Taiki Farm, said. Strong words indeed, but when you have paid \$250,000 just to get your horse here, the least to which you are entitled is to talk a big fight.



Mark Of Esteem was backed yesterday for the Mile

CHEPSTOW

THUNDERER
3.30 Flagship
4.00 SO INTREPID (nap)
2.30 Serious Sensation
3.00 Clan Ben

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
3.00 CELESTIAL KEY.
Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 SERIOUS SENSATION (nap).
3.30 Perfect Paradigm.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

100 (12) 0-4-22 8000 TIMES 74 (22.5f/5.0s) (Nes D Robinson) 8 Head 9-10-4 - B West 4 (9) 88
Record number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure race number. If — left, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider. F — fall, D — dead, S — suspended. Horse's name. Days since last victory; J — jumps, H — flat, E — listed, V — won, H — placed, D — distance winner, CO — course winner. D — distance winner. CO —

the Times Private Handicapper's rating:
3.00 CELESTIAL KEY.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 SERIOUS SENSATION (nap).
3.30 Perfect Paradigm.

GOING: SOFT DRAW: 8F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST
TOE JACKPOT MEETING 55

1.30 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND MEADOW MAIDEN FILLIES

(Stakes) (Div: 2-Y-O: E3, 261: 7f (16 runners))
101 (18) 5 ARMAND 20 (Hermessi Stud) M Present 8-11 — G Offield 76
102 (17) 6 ATHIAS 18 (Hermessi Stud) P Hayes 8-11 — G Offield 74
103 (16) 7 BIRCH 18 (Hermessi Stud) L Sorensen 8-11 — G Offield 75
104 (15) 8 CATHA 18 (Glenmore Lodge) L Sorensen 8-11 — G Offield 76
105 (14) 9 CECIM OPERA (I) (Sorensen) P Chapple-Hyam 8-17 — Pet Ederry
106 (13) 10 CUSINA 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
107 (11) 11 DO BORE 20 (Miles & Smeds) J Toller 8-11 — G Offield 71
108 (10) 12 DON LOVELY HEART 14 (C Punter) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
109 (9) 13 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
110 (8) 14 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
111 (7) 15 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
112 (6) 16 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
113 (5) 17 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
114 (4) 18 DOUBLING 118 (T Fresh) C Candy 8-11 — G Offield 77
115 (3) 19 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
116 (2) 20 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
117 (1) 21 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
118 (1) 22 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
119 (1) 23 MY VALENTINA 32 (O Doherty) Sian Abbott (Redditch) J Denner 8-11 T Speller
120 (1) 24 NICK OF TIME 32 (O Doherty) Sian Abbott (Redditch) J Denner 8-11 T Speller
121 (1) 25 O DUBLING 118 (T Fresh) C Candy 8-11 — G Offield 77
122 (1) 26 SHANNY GRAY 14 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
123 (1) 27 SOUND APEAL 49 (P and J Putter) A Foster 8-11 — G Offield 79
124 (1) 28 SPARKY 14 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
125 (1) 29 SUMMER SCAPE 141 (I) (Sorensen) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
126 (1) 30 VERONET SCENE 141 (I) (Sorensen) P Cole 8-11 — T Odell 81
127 (1) 31 WOODLAND HYMPS 20 (Woodland Partners) M Shattoe 8-11 — D R McCuller
128 (1) 32 WOODLAND HYMPS 20 (Woodland Partners) M Shattoe 8-11 — D R McCuller
129 (1) 33 YOUNG STARS 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
130 (1) 34 ZEPHYRUS 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
BETTING: 5-2 My Valentine, 6-1 Veronet Scene, 5-1 Sparky, 6-1 Veronet Scene, 8-1 Sparky, 10-1 My Valentine, 12-1 others.
1995: 500 Gold 8-11 T Speller 19-10 12 fms 19 nm

FORM FOCUS

1.30 (Div: 2-Y-O: E3, 261: 7f (16 runners))
100 (12) 5 ARMAND 20 (Hermessi Stud) M Present 8-11 — G Offield 76
101 (11) 6 ATHIAS 18 (Hermessi Stud) P Hayes 8-11 — G Offield 74
102 (10) 7 BIRCH 18 (Hermessi Stud) L Sorensen 8-11 — G Offield 75
103 (9) 8 CATHA 18 (Glenmore Lodge) L Sorensen 8-11 — G Offield 76
104 (8) 9 CECIM OPERA (I) (Sorensen) P Chapple-Hyam 8-17 — Pet Ederry
105 (7) 10 CUSINA 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
106 (6) 11 DO BORE 20 (Miles & Smeds) J Toller 8-11 — G Offield 71
107 (5) 12 DON LOVELY HEART 14 (C Punter) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
108 (4) 13 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
109 (3) 14 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
110 (2) 15 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
111 (1) 16 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
112 (1) 17 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
113 (1) 18 DOUBLING 118 (T Fresh) C Candy 8-11 — G Offield 77
114 (1) 19 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
115 (1) 20 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
116 (1) 21 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
117 (1) 22 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
118 (1) 23 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
119 (1) 24 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
120 (1) 25 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
121 (1) 26 SHANNY GRAY 14 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
122 (1) 27 SOUND APEAL 49 (P and J Putter) A Foster 8-11 — G Offield 79
123 (1) 28 SPARKY 14 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
124 (1) 29 SUMMER SCAPE 141 (I) (Sorensen) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
125 (1) 30 VERONET SCENE 141 (I) (Sorensen) P Cole 8-11 — T Odell 81
126 (1) 31 WOODLAND HYMPS 20 (Woodland Partners) M Shattoe 8-11 — D R McCuller
127 (1) 32 WOODLAND HYMPS 20 (Woodland Partners) M Shattoe 8-11 — D R McCuller
128 (1) 33 YOUNG STARS 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
129 (1) 34 ZEPHYRUS 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
BETTING: 5-2 My Valentine, 6-1 Veronet Scene, 5-1 Sparky, 6-1 Veronet Scene, 8-1 Sparky, 10-1 My Valentine, 12-1 others.
1995: 500 Gold 8-11 T Speller 19-10 12 fms 19 nm

FORM FOCUS

2.00 (Div: 2-Y-O: E3, 261: 7f (16 runners))
100 (12) 5 AFTER DOLCE (After the Partnership) M Deneke 8-11 — M Tabbach 76
101 (11) 6 BIRCH 18 (Hermessi Stud) P Hayes 8-11 — G Offield 74
102 (10) 7 BIRCH 18 (Hermessi Stud) P Hayes 8-11 — G Offield 75
103 (9) 8 CATHA 18 (Glenmore Lodge) L Sorensen 8-11 — G Offield 76
104 (8) 9 CECIM OPERA (I) (Sorensen) P Chapple-Hyam 8-17 — Pet Ederry
105 (7) 10 CUSINA 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
106 (6) 11 DO BORE 20 (Miles & Smeds) J Toller 8-11 — G Offield 71
107 (5) 12 DON LOVELY HEART 14 (C Punter) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
108 (4) 13 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
109 (3) 14 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
110 (2) 15 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
111 (1) 16 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
112 (1) 17 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
113 (1) 18 DOUBLING 118 (T Fresh) C Candy 8-11 — G Offield 77
114 (1) 19 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
115 (1) 20 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
116 (1) 21 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
117 (1) 22 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
118 (1) 23 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
119 (1) 24 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
120 (1) 25 DONALD 18 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
121 (1) 26 SHANNY GRAY 14 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
122 (1) 27 SOUND APEAL 49 (P and J Putter) A Foster 8-11 — G Offield 79
123 (1) 28 SPARKY 14 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
124 (1) 29 SUMMER SCAPE 141 (I) (Sorensen) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
125 (1) 30 VERONET SCENE 141 (I) (Sorensen) P Cole 8-11 — T Odell 81
126 (1) 31 WOODLAND HYMPS 20 (Woodland Partners) M Shattoe 8-11 — D R McCuller
127 (1) 32 WOODLAND HYMPS 20 (Woodland Partners) M Shattoe 8-11 — D R McCuller
128 (1) 33 YOUNG STARS 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
129 (1) 34 ZEPHYRUS 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81
BETTING: 5-2 My Valentine, 6-1 Veronet Scene, 5-1 Sparky, 6-1 Veronet Scene, 8-1 Sparky, 10-1 My Valentine, 12-1 others.
1995: 500 Gold 8-11 T Speller 19-10 12 fms 19 nm

FORM FOCUS

3.00 SPINNIE CONDITIONS STAKES

(E3, 0.54, 2m 14yd) (13 runners)

100 (12) 5 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

101 (11) 6 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

102 (10) 7 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

103 (9) 8 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

104 (8) 9 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

105 (7) 10 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

106 (6) 11 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

107 (5) 12 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

108 (4) 13 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

109 (3) 14 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

110 (2) 15 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

111 (1) 16 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

112 (1) 17 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

113 (1) 18 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

114 (1) 19 SPINNIE 20 (Miles & Smeds) G Bunting 8-11 — G Offield 81

115 (1) 20 SPINNIE 20 (M

Home truths that can save the lost souls of football

ONCE upon a time, a society was judged by the way it reared its children. Now we focus on those grown-ups wearing short pants who, in the glare of the spotlight, turn from role models into problem children. When Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, called yesterday for counselling as a matter of course, and not merely for fallen idols such as Paul Gascoigne and Paul Merson, his remedy followed almost word-for-word that of Carlos Saul Menem, the President of Argentina, when his country first wrestled with the drug-taking of Diego Maradona.

Ironically, Maradona, his jailed agent and others have recently brought their problems back to Menem's door. But the link, and the perceived cure that lies in psychiatric therapy, is the same in England, in Latin America, and wherever footballers are projected onto posters that fill the bedroom walls of the next generation of youngsters.

"It is important that we look at the lives of players away from football and try to make sure they do not take on too much, and can cope with things," Taylor said yesterday. "It is quite apparent because of the high profile of the game and the pressures on players, that it is important for football management, football clubs and football as a whole, to have counselling programmes."

Taylor is sincere in this and honest in his admission that neither he, nor anyone in football, has the training to deal with the personal problems (one might add the personality problems) of the modern so-called superstar.

One thing is evident: nothing save will penetrate the game unless the presidents, the chairmen, the rulers are themselves subjected to corrective measures.

Take Italy on a normal, ie. manic, day. Yesterday Cagliari sacked Giorgio Perez, their coach, because, a couple of months after being hired, he had failed to turn a mediocre club into a giant of Serie A. Cagliari were beaten on Sunday, 2-1, away to Lazio, and the president, Massimo Cellino, explained, he considered rationally, that he could not keep a coach whose team were



Overseas Football

beaten by an opposition reduced to ten men for most of the match. A session on the couch might have told the president the old one about ten men often proving more stubborn than 11.

Also in Italy, Giovanni Galeone, the Perugia coach, under pressure from the club's owner, Luciano Gaucci, ended up in a cardiac ward. He left hospital after tests, was told to give up smoking and was relieved when his team won 2-1 at Parma. By then Gaucci was his friend: "Earlier, I got cross when we didn't pick up points," Gaucci said. "Now I don't see any reason to be angry." Perugia, newly promoted, are four points behind the leaders, Juventus. "However," Gaucci said, "let's not fool ourselves. I'm waiting to see how we do in our next match."

Pressure, pressure, pressure. That, Menem reasoned, was the factor that crippled the stardom of Maradona, the



Taylor: remedy

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

CHICAGO MARATHON: Men: 1. P Evans (GB) 2:30:13; Women: 1. M Sutcliffe (GB) 2:30:34; 2. S Shadrack (Papua New Guinea) 2:30:34; 3. E Martin (GB) 2:31:23; 4. G Stynes (GB) 2:31:24; Women: 1. M Sutton (GB) 2:40:17; 2. J McCallum (US) 2:40:18; 3. D Bartnicki (Can) 2:43:01

TORONTO MARATHON: Men: P Mbogui (Kenya) 2:30:33; Women: J Webb (Can) 2:37:52

SEPARATE CUMBRIA: Full runners Association relay: Men: 1. Barrowdale 47:14min 56sec; 2. Barley 47:18:56; 3. Pudsey and Bramley 47:24:14; Women: 1. Pudsey and Bramley 47:24:14; 2. Barley 47:25:59; 3. Barrowdale 47:27:01; Dan Peak (57:09) 5:55:54; 4. Leedz City (56m) 5:57:51.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Winning 98 Derby 115, Sheffield 88 Derby 74

	P	W	L	F	A/Pts
Sheffield	9	6	3	800	722 14
Leopards	8	6	2	703	652 13
Chester	7	5	2	545 10	545 10
Birmingham	7	5	2	525 10	525 10
Leicester	7	5	2	525 10	525 10
London	7	5	2	525 10	525 10
Manchester	7	5	2	525 10	525 10
Derby	7	4	3	547 10	547 10
Newcastle	7	4	3	539 9	539 8
Thames Valley	7	3	4	536 8	536 8
Crystal Palace	7	3	4	525 10	525 10
Worcester & W.	7	3	4	525 10	525 10
Horizon & W.	7	0	7	764 100	764 100

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division, Fyrmouth 95 Mid Sussex 92, Stockton 79; Fylde 92; West Lancs 92; Stockton 79; Fylde 92; West Lancs 92; Birmingham 60; Barking and Dagenham 44; Thames Valley 61; Ipswich 72; Northampton 56; London 51; Sheffield 77; Nottingham 20; Spalding 62; Shrewsbury 71; Hartlepool 48

BOWLS

ALL-ENGLAND MIXED INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: (Mixed Trophy) Preliminary draw: Hull and District vs Northants 1-0; East Lindsey vs Spalding 79-73; Lincoln 92 vs Scunthorpe 92; Gloucester vs Cheltenham 92; Aylesbury 91 vs Bantledale 71; Cumbria 73 vs Luton 73; Division 1: First division: 1. Bantledale 71; Second: 1. Aylesbury 70; 2. Bantledale 70; 3. Scunthorpe 69; 4. Cumbria 68; 5. Bantledale 67; 6. Aylesbury 66; 7. Bantledale 65; 8. Cumbria 64; 9. Bantledale 63; 10. Aylesbury 62; 11. Bantledale 61; 12. Cumbria 60; 13. Bantledale 59; 14. Aylesbury 58; 15. Bantledale 57; 16. Cumbria 56; 17. Bantledale 55; 18. Aylesbury 54; 19. Bantledale 53; 20. Cumbria 52; 21. Bantledale 51; 22. Aylesbury 50; 23. Bantledale 49; 24. Cumbria 48; 25. Bantledale 47; 26. Aylesbury 46; 27. Bantledale 45; 28. Cumbria 44; 29. Bantledale 43; 30. Aylesbury 42; 31. Bantledale 41; 32. Aylesbury 40; 33. Bantledale 39; 34. Cumbria 38; 35. Bantledale 37; 36. Aylesbury 36; 37. Bantledale 35; 38. Cumbria 34; 39. Bantledale 33; 40. Aylesbury 32; 41. Bantledale 31; 42. Cumbria 30; 43. Bantledale 29; 44. Aylesbury 28; 45. Bantledale 27; 46. Cumbria 26; 47. Bantledale 25; 48. Aylesbury 24; 49. Bantledale 23; 50. Cumbria 22; 51. Bantledale 21; 52. Aylesbury 20; 53. Cumbria 19; 54. Bantledale 18; 55. Aylesbury 17; 56. Cumbria 16; 57. Bantledale 15; 58. Aylesbury 14; 59. Cumbria 13; 60. Bantledale 12; 61. Aylesbury 11; 62. Cumbria 10; 63. Bantledale 9; 64. Aylesbury 8; 65. Cumbria 7; 66. Bantledale 6; 67. Aylesbury 5; 68. Cumbria 4; 69. Bantledale 3; 70. Aylesbury 2; 71. Cumbria 1; 72. Bantledale 1; 73. Aylesbury 0; 74. Cumbria 0; 75. Bantledale 0; 76. Aylesbury 0; 77. Cumbria 0; 78. Bantledale 0; 79. Aylesbury 0; 80. Cumbria 0; 81. Bantledale 0; 82. Aylesbury 0; 83. Cumbria 0; 84. Bantledale 0; 85. Aylesbury 0; 86. Cumbria 0; 87. Bantledale 0; 88. Aylesbury 0; 89. Cumbria 0; 90. Bantledale 0; 91. Aylesbury 0; 92. Cumbria 0; 93. Bantledale 0; 94. Aylesbury 0; 95. Cumbria 0; 96. Bantledale 0; 97. 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Jane's guide to making errors of judgment

Perhaps the cleverest thing about *Prime Suspect* 5 (which concluded last night on ITV) was its subtitle, *Errors of Judgement*, it was called — in direct reference to Helen Mirren's shortsighted decisions. Should Helen Mirren's character Jane Tennison release young Campbell Lafferty from custody? No, she shouldn't. Should she sleep with her new boss? A big no. Should she wear beige on *Crimenight*? The consensus was again in the negative.

But as the four hours of gripping telly came to a close last night, I began to wonder whether "errors of judgment" didn't conveniently cover too many aspects of this story. Every time someone behaved absurdly or illogically — such as when a second-division psycho threatened to murder Helen Mirren amid the litter of a deserted railway station ("Let's waste the bitch") — the alarm bells were too easily silenced. Wasting Jane Tennison would be just

stupid, you see. But instead of saying "That's just stupid!" you had to purse your lips. "Ooh, bad error of judgment, son! Very bad error of judgment there!"

It wasn't a bad story. Jane's need to identify the mole in her department became increasingly important, and Guy Andrews's script judged the revelation carefully — courteously allowing the audience to point the finger first (but only just). On the minus side, Jane's almost total obtuseness got boring. "He's behind her!" said her assailant in the final scene — and the only surprising thing was that she didn't reply "Oh no he isn't". Searching for her mole, she lit on the ambitious but innocent Claire Devaney (Julia Lane, a Helen Baxendale lookalike) and looked no further. Interviewing suspects, she did it badly and endangered their lives. She boiled eggs and dropped them on the floor. One began to wonder whether she had

indeed slept her way to the top, because as a police detective (and egg-boiler) she was rubbish.

Significantly, she was known throughout this last *Prime Suspect* as "Jane" rather than "Tennison". A bad sign that she was losing her grip. Meanwhile Steven Mackintosh as "The Street" was rather good, though it took me four long hours to remember where ("Where?") I'd seen him before. It was *The Muppet Christmas Carol*. You can see why he was difficult to place, then: as Scrooge's cheery nephew Fred, he neglected to "waste" Tiny Tim in a derelict swimming pool, thank goodness.

To be scheduled against *Prime Suspect* was a rotten fate thoroughly undeserved by last night's *Cutting Edge* on Channel 4. *Birth of a Salesman* was a clever and humorous film on an unpromising subject: the evangelical indoctrination of a door-to-

door sales team. "Listen to the customer; people love to talk about themselves," said the team-leader, light shining in his eyes. "When people warn you, 'But I won't buy anything!' they are really saying 'I am easy to sell to.' People are tense when they say no. When they say yes, they relax". What were they selling, these new recruits? We learnt all about the superlative patter first, the

brainwashing, and the big-buck motivation. If they were top salesmen, these chaps, they would one day date "Claudia Schiffer" (presumably like Claudia Schiffer only working at night in a supermarket). Cleverly, director Claudia Nyte built up the viewer's interest in the product, just as these over-motivated saps were supposed to do. And after 20 minutes of slavering in anticipation ("Tell me what it is! I'll buy one!") we were finally put out of our misery. The product was revealed as a fancy vacuum-cleaner retailing at eight hundred quid.

As each salesman stumbled and fell, Nyte gave us a jaunty picture of green bottles falling off conveyor belts and smashing. Ten green bottles, you see? Nyte's purpose was clearly not to weep for her featured wannabes. Instead, she was forgiveably transfixed by the "lypoms" (don't ask); and we met a student vet called Steve who advanced (then retracted) some quaint theories about equal oppor-

tunities. "Don't hire the bitch" was, alas, the main thrust.

The Paul Merton Show (BBC2) was largely unfunny, which was a shame, and added an already existing worry. People are nowadays phoning helplines at night: "It's about Paul Merton, if only he would choose the right material!" Anyway, it was highly noticeable that the only laugh-out-loud piece in last night's "special" was the sketch in which Merton couldn't himself appear — viz. *Casablanca* as played by white bunny glove-puppets.

"Play it Sam," said a blank-faced white bunny glove-puppet. At which, another white bunny glove-puppet (in a top hat) began to play a toy piano with gusto in a hilarious stiff-armed fashion. But it only served to rub things in. Why the blank-faced, stiff-armed stuff isn't equally funny in a human being is Paul Merton's problem in a nutshell.

REVIEW

Lynne Truss



To be scheduled against *Prime Suspect* was a rotten fate thoroughly undeserved by last night's *Cutting Edge* on Channel 4. *Birth of a Salesman*

TEBG

6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (29700)
7.00 BREAKFAST NEWS (Ceefax) (10261)
9.00 BREAKFAST NEWS EXTRA (Ceefax) (52806-8)
9.20 STYLE CHALLENGE (2175483)
9.45 KILROY (2905464)
10.30 CAN'T COOK, WON'T COOK (16006)
11.00 NEWS and weather (5589483)
11.05 THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW (772261)
11.45 SMILLIE'S PEOPLE (1495071)
12.00 NEWS and weather (7128174)
12.05pm THE FLYING DOCTORS Medical adventures (5805174)
12.50 FANCY THAT! (5688063)
1.00 NEWS and weather (Ceefax) (30648)
1.30 REGIONAL NEWS (57031087)
1.40 NEIGHBOURS (1408209)
2.00 CALL MY BLUFF (4561) 2.30 THE TERRACE (396) 3.00 INCOGNITO (8218)

3.30 BRUM (9335938) 3.40 **REINDEER** (575887) 3.50 **POLPEYE** (1486759) 4.10 **OSCAR'S ORCHESTRA** (Ceefax) (s) (672087)
4.35 THE QUEEN'S NOSE (r) (Ceefax) (s) (3787880) 5.00 **NEWSROUND** (2075483) 5.10 **BYKER GROVE** (6171087)
5.35 NEIGHBOURS (r) (Ceefax) (716754)
6.00 NEWS and weather (975)
6.30 REGIONAL NEWS (377)

7.00 HOLIDAY Clive Newton-John and her daughter take a riding holiday in Donegal. Toyah Willcox flies to Bermuda for a weekend break. Sunkissed Guineas has a late availability holiday in Barbados and Jill Dando goes to Montreux on the shores of Lake Geneva (Ceefax) (s) (5687)
7.30 EASTENDERS Lorraine has to ask Grant a difficult question and Tiffany takes up to her past (Ceefax) (s) (261)

8.00 999 LIFESAVERS True stories reconstructed with the rescuers involved (1087)
8.30 A QUESTION OF SPORT Aly McCoist, Steve Redgrave and Véronique Tugnampai versus John Parrott, Tessa Sanderson and Gary McAllister (3822)
9.00 NEWS, REGIONAL NEWS and weather (Ceefax) (4532)

1.30 AFTER THE BREAK Patrick Kielty presents adverts that use sex to sell (Ceefax) (s) (48193)

1.00 CHARGE (2905222) Fortnightly anniversary examination of Britain's role (Ceefax) (3032822)

1.15 FILM: Eddie and the Cruisers (1983) A television reporter re-examines the disappearance of the leader of a successful 1980s rock band. Starring Tom Bergeron and Michael Pare. Directed by Martin Davidson (Ceefax) (304377)

12.45am FILM: Sims of the Mother (1991) An outwardly normal and successful man has a hidden urge to commit rape, in reaction to his domineering mother. Starring Elizabeth Montgomery and McDowell. Directed by John Patterson (229946)

2.15-2.30 WEATHER (8893304)

Videoplus+ and the Video PlusCodes The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder using a Videoplayer. Type the code in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ ("Pluscode") and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

TEBG

6.00am OPEN: UNIVERSITY: PLAY AND THE SOCIAL WORLD (70952) 6.25 **FIRST STEPS TO AUTONOMY** (7128667) 6.50 **LEARNING FOR ALL: CHILDREN FIRST** (9786464)
7.15 BREAKFAST NEWS (6946532)
7.30 ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (4240613) 7.55 **BLUE PETER** (8472990)
8.20 FIREMAN SAM (1143996) 8.35 **THE RECORD** (8833464) 9.00 **STANDARD GRADE DESIGN** (5271990) 9.45 **WATCH** (1524377)
10.00 PLAYLAND (18533) 10.30 **COME OUTSIDE** (1622648) 10.45 **TEACHING TODAY** (707280) 11.15 **CLEMENTINE** (9108613) 11.30 **GNVQ TV** (3667) 12.00 **SEE HEAR** (2570) 12.30pm **WORKING LUNCH** (53071) 1.00 **TEACHING TODAY** (707280) 1.30 **SHOWCASE** (5703962) 1.40 **HOTCH POTCH HOUSE** (4049351) 2.00 **FIREFIGHTER SAM** (1825944)

2.10 SNOOKER: GRAND PRIZE (5167416) 6.00 **FRESH PRINCE OF BEL AIR** (r) (s) (78545)
6.25 HEARTBREAK HIGH (Ceefax) (s) (653464)

7.10 THE O ZONE (s) (250571)
7.30 WE ARE (NOT) AMUSED The second of two programmes on royal satire (r) (Ceefax) (s) (803)

8.00 POUND FOR POUND Tonight's programme encourages us to search for savings certificates, stocks and bonds and unclaimed premium bond prizes. Plus an examination of pet insurance and shareholders' perks (s) (9626)

8.30 ANTONIO CARLUCCIO'S ITALIAN FEAST Milan and Lombardy. Last in series (1484)

9.00 FILM: The Suez Crisis (1983) Fortnightly anniversary examination of Britain's role (Ceefax) (3032822)

9.15 FILM: Eddie and the Cruisers (1983) A television reporter re-examines the disappearance of the leader of a successful 1980s rock band. Starring Tom Bergeron and Michael Pare. Directed by Martin Davidson (Ceefax) (304377)

9.30 FILM: Sims of the Mother (1991) An outwardly normal and successful man has a hidden urge to commit rape, in reaction to his domineering mother. Starring Elizabeth Montgomery and McDowell. Directed by John Patterson (229946)

12.30am LEARNING ZONE: OU: English Only in America? (6491) 1.00 **The Golden Thread** (61236) 1.30 **An English Education** (78014) 2.00 **Night School TV: Access To Learning** (59586) 4.00 **BBC Focus: Teaching and Learning with IT** (65607) 4.30 **Film Education** (42101) 5.00 **Inside Europe** (27304) 5.30-6.00 **Film Education** (22673)

6.00pm LOVE CONFESSION (647913) 7.20 **Press Your Luck** (2079267) 7.40 **Jeopardy!** (2430880) 8.00 **Sidewalks** (565568) 8.00 **Another World** (1710008) 8.30 **Open Window** (716754) 8.45 **Family Ties** (716754) 9.15 **Save Joy** (5678209) 10.45 **Real TV** (6263879) 11.30 **Ernest Bevin** (5678209) 12.00 **Gerardo** (568269) 1.00pm **Red TV** (716754) 1.30 **Three** (40528) 3.30 **Jerry Jones** (1997) 3.45 **Elizabeth Montgomery** (1997) 4.00 **Star Trek: The Next Generation** (13424) 4.00 **The New Adventures of Superman** (569464) 7.00 **LAPD** (1920) 8.00 **MASH** (1972) 8.30 **Star Trek: The Next Generation** (13424) 9.00 **Law and Order** (2079269) 10.00 **Star Trek: The Next Generation** (13424) 11.30 **Star Trek: The Next Generation** (13424) 12.00 **Red TV** (716754) 1.30 **Ernest Bevin** (5678209) 2.00 **Red Eye** (229946)

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Uzbek warlord turns mediator and presents proposal for ceasefire

Embattled Taliban weighs deal for Afghan power share

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN KABUL

A CEASEFIRE could be in the making between forces fighting for control of Kabul, the Afghan capital. Taliban, the Islamic militia that captured the city three weeks ago, said last night it was ready to deal with its enemies — a rare hint at compromise.

In classic Afghan fashion, different factions sent out different signals yesterday. Ahmed Shah Masood, military commander of the former government forces, said ceasefire negotiations had collapsed. Pakistani mediators were last night frantically trying to revive the earlier optimism.

Taliban appears enthusiastic about the prospects for peace. It did not rule out the idea of power-sharing in Kabul, declaring that Afghanistan should be governed by all sections of the people. That was moderate language indeed for the hardline Taliban mullahs, whose forces control three-quarters of the country.

While talk of peace went on, so did the fighting. Shells were aimed at the civilian airport for the second day and northern edges of Kabul were hit by artillery fire. Sounds of shelling could be heard as darkness fell.

The ceasefire proposal was made by General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the northern

Uzbek warlord whose troops and heavy weapons have moved south to support the forces of the former Government, positioned about ten miles north of the city. Taliban has repeatedly refused to negotiate with the old Government; that has been overcome by General Dostum acting as negotiator for both armies.

Taliban said it was ready for a ceasefire if there was a full exchange of prisoners, which seems acceptable to General Dostum. Details of the timing and place of the exchange, and the duration of any end to hostilities, have not been settled. Taliban said there could be peace on the

battlefield as soon as its enemies agreed the details. It would not reveal how many prisoners were involved.

Any suspension of fighting could offer a chance to negotiate a longer ceasefire; Pakistani mediators are trying to persuade all sides to enter talks. United Nations peace efforts are overshadowed by the Pakistani initiative, to the UN's annoyance. Norbert Holl, the UN special envoy on Afghanistan, had some startling observations about Taliban's ignorance of international procedures. Its leaders knew a lot about fighting but little about world or economic factors, he said. "Sometimes I think they have understood what I mean, but then you realise they have not — they have never known what a verbal note is, for example." They probably thought it was just rubbish, he said.

General Dostum has proposed the demilitarisation of Kabul to enable peace negotiations to begin, but Mullah Mohammed Mutaqi, Information and Culture Minister for Taliban, claimed, astonishingly, that the city was already demilitarised and in the hands of the police. That does not tally with the daily test-firing of heavy guns, which continued yesterday.

Masood: won support of Dostum's forces

still adorned with such delights as Kellogg's corn flakes and Cadbury's chocolate — alas, white and crumbly with age — smuggled through Pakistan and Central Asia.

A day or two after the Mujahidin invaded on that Saturday in spring, I watched a British television journalist standing forlornly in the middle of Chicken Street as a gunman opened the boot of his taxi and discovered lots of French wine. These were removed and smashed with much ceremony.

Chicken Street is now as dry as the Afghan plains because alcohol consumption could mean the loss of a limb under Taliban rule. Even the most famous bootlegger of old, known by the code-name The Chinaman, sticks these days to selling Indian tuna fish, canned fruit juice from the Middle East and the occasional jar of caviar.

The carpet shops in Chicken Street do a middling trade from aid workers and itinerant journalists descending for the occasional big story. These traders are desperate enough to accept a personal cheque for their rugs. They say they are rarely cheated: when they are, the guilty man or woman is liable to receive a visit at home in Europe or

the United States from an expatriate Afghan relative seeking payment.

When not at Chicken Street or hunting around the front line in decrepit taxis, throngs of journalists crash on the floors of houses occupied by hospitable Kabul-based correspondents. The fortunate ones who landed early commandeer rooms at the German Club. The club, which most of the time is empty, has cleared its little theatre and turned it into a dormitory. At night there are snoring bodies in the snooker room and even on the sofas in the dining room.

A few years ago the club was redecorated and the Afghan painters found a nice picture in a cupboard, which they put on the wall. It was Hitler inspecting his troops; the manager returned it hurriedly to its dark home. The German Club cooks do well, given their limited resources, but cauliflower is always served with boiled insects.

The alternative eatery is the United Nations Staff House, the heart of Kabul gossip, where the cooks do rather better. I heard yesterday that somebody had acquired a bottle of Black Label, but it is only a rumour. I value my right hand too much to inquire further.

Mr Yandarbiyev said he felt regret at the sacking of General Lebed, the author of the Chechen peace plan, and his replacement by Ivan Rybkin who, when Speaker of the Russian Parliament, actively supported the military in Chechnya.

Mr Yandarbiyev said he felt regret at the sacking of General Lebed, but declined to comment on Mr Rybkin, saying only that they had not been in contact.

Shirvani Basayev, a top rebel commander, was more outspoken. He got on well personally with General Lebed.

He is also preoccupied with the fate of almost the entire print run of his memoirs: 5,000 copies printed in the Ukraine were seized by Russian customs officials and Mr Yandarbiyev himself has only one copy to show visitors.

He hopes that under independence he may be compensated for his loss.



Taliban fighters march through Husseini Kot village, north of Kabul, after retaking it

Kabul's de luxe delights: corn flakes and boiled insects

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

KABUL is a smugglers' town, an Aladdin's Cave of music systems, foreign groceries, cheap watches and, in extreme profusion, some of the world's leading cigarette brands. For beleaguered Britons here craving basic essentials like Heinz baked beans and Mars bars, there are well-stocked shops on Chicken Street. This oasis was once a source of alcohol, as rare in Afghanistan as air. Before the Mujahidin captured the city in April 1992, there was an excellent under-the-counter wine cellar in one grocery, whose shelves were

still adorned with such delights as Kellogg's corn flakes and Cadbury's chocolate — alas, white and crumbly with age — smuggled through Pakistan and Central Asia.

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OVERSEAS NEWS 15

Chechen rebel leader gives Russians ten days to pull out

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN NOVYYE ATAGI

CHECHNYA'S rebel President, Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, gave a warning yesterday that the war in his republic that could reignite if Moscow did not withdraw all of its forces by the end of this month.

He also regretted the sacking of Aleksandr Lebed as Moscow's special envoy to Chechnya, but said he was relying on the Russians to stick by the peace agreement signed in August.

"If just one Russian soldier stays here it means the war has not finished," Mr Yandarbiyev told *The Times* in an interview at his headquarters, ten miles south of Grozny.

General Lebed's peace agreement is continuing to be implemented, with what is a much more rapid troop pull-out than the one from Afghanistan in the late 1990s.

Yesterday the 104th parachute regiment held its departure ceremony and left by rail. The Russians say more than half their troops have now pulled out, although they declined to give any timetable, or name any figures.

But a clash appears to be imminent over the future of the 101st and 205th brigades. Moscow says they are "permanently deployed" in Chechnya and not subject to the pullout. Mr Yandarbiyev said he expected all forces, including those brigades, to leave by the end of this month. Their continued presence, he said, would be a provocation and he could not answer for the consequences.

The issue could be even more explosive after the sacking last week of General Lebed, the author of the Chechen peace plan, and his replacement by Ivan Rybkin who, when Speaker of the Russian Parliament, actively supported the military in Chechnya.

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I was a child sex abuse victim

Abused as a child, Peter Saunders has decided to 'come out' to help others. Interview by Heather Kirby

Peter Saunders, a lecturer in economics at Ealing College of Education, appears to be a cheerful, outgoing sort of person but inside he is still an unhappy child, haunted by vile memories and tortured by guilt. He was seriously sexually abused three or four times a week by a friend of his family from the age of eight until, at 13, he finally found the courage to say no.

"Then he abused me emotionally and psychologically which I think, in the long term, has had a far worse effect on me," Mr Saunders says. He has decided to "come out" about his abuse because, when he needed to unbuckle himself, he could find no one who would listen. He now intends to set up an organisation to help other adults who were abused when they were children.

His childhood trauma exploded last year when his father was dying. "I realised, now he was on his deathbed, that I would never be able to tell him what happened, and I wanted to do so much. That made me incredibly angry. I was angry about being brought up in a household where I could not talk about a thing like that. My father was strict, a disciplinarian, but he wasn't cruel and I'm sure, if I had told him, he would have gone to the police like a shot. I felt sad I'd not been able to talk to him about it."

"All the family was around the deathbed and when it came to organising my father's funeral I blurted out, 'That bastard isn't coming and if he does, I'm not.' That's when I told them what had happened to me when I was a child. Another young male member of the family said that he had also been abused, by the same person, but he was reluctant to talk about it. He wanted to forget it and is now upset with me for bringing it all out into the open."

"No one else reacted the way I wanted them to; instead of sympathy, my telling them about the abuse has torn our family apart. They have turned on me and won't speak to me. After that I thought I would never be able to tell another soul."

Peter Saunders's evidence, and

that of other individuals and organisations, will be made public today when the National Commission of Inquiry into the Prevention of Child Abuse publishes its findings. Part of his experiences will be relayed on a video because, a spokeswoman for the commission explains, "It is very painful for people to speak repeatedly about their distressing experiences."

The national commission, funded by the NSPCC, was launched in August 1994 to examine a broad range of public and specialist evidence about the causes of child abuse, and how it can be prevented.

Recently Peter Saunders met other survivors and has started

'No one reacted to it the way I wanted them to'

having counselling twice a week. He talks about his abuse in a quiet, way, the straightforward delivery at odds with the sordidness and cruelty of his story.

"I used to babysit and the abuse happened after they came back home and after his wife went to bed. I was too frightened to tell anyone — and he said they would not believe me if I did. It wasn't until I was 13 that I plucked up the courage to tell him to stop."

N of getting myself out of that abusive situation earlier has always made me feel guilty — although I now realise I was just a child, it wasn't me that did something wrong, and I need to forgive myself. My tormentor was a grammar school teacher. He constantly sneered at me calling me 'a bloody stupid boy' and rubbed my nose in the fact I failed the 11-plus. He ridiculed my chess-playing and scoffed at the idea I wanted to go in for cycle racing. One day he said, 'Pete, you are at a crap school. I will try and get

Peter Saunders now lives apart from his wife and two children of nine and seven, although he sees them every other weekend. "I have been unhappy for much of my life without knowing why. After my father's death I became seriously depressed, but now I feel very positive. The one thing that bastard gave me is an ability to empathise with victims of child abuse."



Peter Saunders



Carla Powell (above) with her newly honoured husband Sir Charles Powell, and (right), leading Labour hostess, Gail Rebuck



Pamela Harriman: châtelaine of the US Embassy in Paris



Return of the political hostess

The political hostess is back. Michael Gove on the renaissance of a much missed breed

Pamela Harriman, mother of the Tory MP Winston Churchill, and now châtelaine of the US Embassy in Paris,

of Montecito ash on the silver tray, the reflection of pearl in crystal claret glass and the blending of soprano laughter with baritone profundities. At the weekend it was a Brighton hotel suite but, more usually it's a Kensington dinner table. Carla Powell, the wife of Margaret Thatcher's most devoted diplomat and a formidable female facilitator in her own right, was giving a party. Not just any party, but an event where networking is elevated from the humdrum and becomes high art.

The Albert Room of Brighton's Grand Hotel saw a variegated collection of pundits, politicos and plutocrats gather, as many of them have before, at Lady Powell's request, for foie gras and flirting. The dinner was intended to provide a congenial curtain-raiser to the Referendum Party conference but as well as marking the launch of a new party it also signalled the renaissance of an old breed.

Lady Powell is the most glittering of a new generation of political hostesses, powerful women who preside over salons where business and pleasure are as intoxicatingly intermingled as gin and vermouth in a Martini.

Since Eve introduced Adam to a valuable contact in the serpent world the hostess has been as much part of politics as the broken promise and the greased palm. The great political battles of the 18th century between the Whig playboy Fox and the Tory prig Pitt have captured academic imaginations but, more fascinating by far was the struggle between the rival hostesses, Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, the Whig coquette, and the Duchess of Gordon, the Tory dragon.

Amanda Foreman, the historian whose biography of Georgiana is published by HarperCollins next year, argues: "In the 18th century the political and social elites were interchangeable. Most real politics took place at social events and decisions of great importance were made more often in country houses than the House of Commons."

Georgiana's successors in this century have included Lady Londonderry in the 1920s, nicknamed "Circe" by her bewitched admirers, and in the 1950s Ann Fleming, wife of the sado-masochistic spy author Ian. Perhaps the most impressive of the modern models has been the American

Street loaned by Alistair McAlpine. One regular guest, William Sitwell, says: "An invitation to a Euro-sceptic gathering used to be about as sought after as a night on the tiles with Mother Teresa but Biddy changed that. An important battle which could seem boring became sexy."

Barbara Amiel prefers discreet dinners in her Chelsea home with literary lionesses sprinkled among the politicians and businessmen. Although both Canadians, she and her husband are as much part of London's political scene as the Queen's Speech.

Tessa Keswick, who once worked as Ken Clarke's Conservative conscience, now runs the Centre for Policy Studies. As well as a midwife to ideas, she is also a matchmaker for talent. Tessa takes as many pains with her guests as the Treasury does with its figures. She sprinkles her handsome aristocratic relatives, such as the model Honor Fraser or the biographer Flora, in with grand business types such as Sir Ronnie Grierson and coming men such as Tory pamphleteer Edward Heathcoat-Amory.

A Blair government might mean changes, but it wouldn't see any decline in the power of the hostess. Unlike the more formal dinners of their Tory rivals, the hostesses of the Left prefer the unstructured bonhomie of the buffet. In a rare nod towards laissez-faire, guests are encouraged to mingle rather than be subject to a central plan. It's a case of New Labour, No Placement.

The two leading new Labour hostesses are Gail Rebuck, chief executive at publishers Random House and wife of shadowy strategist Philip Gould, and the radical barrister, Helena Kennedy. The guests lists at either's events overlap — with figures such as Geoff Robertson, QC, almost as in demand as Cherie Booth. Media figures such as Melvyn Bragg and Clive Hollick and City socialist Gavin Davies are likely to be comparing notes while the hostess ensures that the only dangerous red is the Argentine merlot.

While ambition still lurks in politicians' breasts there will be a place for the hostess, as there is for the mistress — but the former remains, in her role as the lubricant of the democratic machine, an altogether good thing and worth raising a succession of glasses to.

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In the second of two excerpts from his collected essays, the poet Joseph Brodsky attempts to persuade an audience of American college students of his belief that only through learning to value boredom can we truly appreciate life

*But should you fail to keep your kingdom
And, like your father before you come
Where thought accuses and feeling mocks.
Believe your pain...*

— W.H. Auden, *Alonso to Ferdinand*

Known under several aliases — anguish, ennui, tedium, doldrums, humdrum, the blahs, apathy, listlessness, stolidity, lethargy, languor, apathy, etc. — boredom is a complex phenomenon and, by and large, a product of repetition. It would seem, then, that the best remedy against it would be constant inventiveness and originality.

Alas, life's main medium is precisely repetition. One may argue, of course, that repeated attempts at originality and inventiveness are the vehicle of progress and civilisation. As benefits of hindsight go, however, this one is not the most valuable. For should we divide the history of our species by scientific discoveries, not to mention ethical concepts, we will get, technically speaking, centuries of boredom. The very notion of originality or innovation spells out the monotony of standard reality of life, whose main idiom is medium.

In that, life differs from art, whose worst enemy is cliché. On the whole, art treats boredom in a self-defensive, satirical fashion. The only way art can become a solace from boredom is if you yourselves become artists.

But even should you march out in full force to typewriters, easels and Steinway grandys, you won't shield yourselves from boredom entirely. If repetitiveness is boredom's mother, you, young and newfangled, will be quickly smothered by lack of recognition and low pay, both chronic in the world of art. But the other trouble with originality and inventiveness is that they pay off. If you are capable of either, you will become well off rather fast. Desirable as that may be, nobody is as bored as the rich, for money buys time, and time is repetitive.

Everything that displays a pattern is pregnant with boredom. That applies to money in more ways than one, both to the banknotes as such and to possessing them. That is not to bill poverty, of course, as an escape from boredom. All one can suggest is to be a bit more apprehensive of money, for the zeros in your accounts may usher in their mental equivalents.

As for poverty, boredom is the

In praise of boredom

most brutal part of its misery, and the departure from it takes more radical forms: of violent rebellion or drug addiction. In general, a man shooting heroin into his vein does so largely for the same reason you buy a video to dodge the redundancy of time. On the whole, the difference in tactility between a syringe's needle and a stereo's push button roughly corresponds to that between the acuteness and dullness of time's impact upon the have-nots and the haves. In short, whether rich or poor, sooner or later you will be afflicted by this redundancy of time.

The sooner you hit bottom, the faster you surface

Potential haves, you'll be bored with your work, your friends, your spouses, your lovers, the view from your window, the furniture or wallpaper in your room, your thoughts, yourselves. Accordingly, you'll try to devise ways of escape. You may take up changing jobs, residence, company, country, climate; you may take up promiscuity, alcohol, travel, cooking lessons, drugs, psychoanalysis.

For a while that may work. Until the day, of course, when you wake up in your bedroom amid a new family and a different wallpaper, in a different state and climate, with a heap of bills from your travel agent and your shrink, yet with the same stale feeling toward the light of day pouring through your window. Depending on your temperament or the age you are, you will either panic or resign yourself to the familiarity of the sensation; or else you'll go through the rigmarole of change once more. There is yet another way out of it, however. Those of you who have read Robert Frost's *Servant to Servants* may remember a line of his: *The best way out is always through*. So what

even of your best, most ardent actions, is better than the illusion of their consequences and the attendant self-aggrandisement.

For boredom is an invasion of time into your set of values. It puts your existence into its perspective. The more you learn about your own size, the more humble and the more compassionate you become to your likes, to the flecks of dust in a sunbeam or atop your table. You are to those flecks what time is to you; that's why they look so small. And do you know what the dust says when it's being wiped off the table? *Remember me, whispers the dust.*

I have quoted these lines by the German poet Peter Huchel because I like them, because I recognise myself in them. "Remember me," says the dust. And one hears in this that if we learn about ourselves

from time, perhaps time, in turn, may learn something from us. What would that be? That inferior in significance, we best it in sensitivity.

This is what it means — to be insignificant. If it takes will-parading boredom to bring this home, then hail the boredom. You are insignificant because you are finite. Yet the more finite a thing is, the more it is charged with life, emotions, joy, fears, compassion. For infinity is not terribly lively, nor terribly emotional. Your boredom is the boredom of infinity. Respect it for its origins — as much perhaps as for your own. Because it is the anticipation of that inanimate infinity that accounts for the intensity of human sentiments, often resulting in a conception of a new life. This is not to say that you have been conceived out of boredom, or that the finite breeds the infinite. It is to suggest, rather, that passion is the privilege of the insignificant.

Passion, above all, is a remedy against boredom. Another one, of course, is pain — physical more so than psychological, passion's frequent aftermath; although I wish you neither. Still, when you hurt you know that at least you have not been deceived (by your body or by your psyche). By the same token, what is good about boredom is that it is not a deceiver.

Try to embrace, or let yourself be embraced by, boredom and anguish. Endure it as long as you can, and then some more. Do not think you have goofed somewhere along the line, don't try to retrace your steps to correct the error. As the poet said, "Believe your pain". This awful bear hug is no mistake. Nothing that disturbs you is. Remember, there is no embrace in this world that won't finally unclasp.

I wish you nothing but happiness. Still, there will be plenty of dark and dull hours. You ought to be fortified against that in some fashion; and that's what I've tried to do here. For what lies ahead is a remarkable but wearisome journey; you are boarding today, as it were, a runaway train. No one can tell you what lies ahead, least of all those who remain behind. One thing, however, they can assure you of is that it is not a round trip. Try to derive some comfort from the notion that no matter how unpalatable this or that station may turn out to be, the train doesn't stop there for good.

• Abridged from *On Grief and Reason: Essays by Joseph Brodsky*, published by Hamish Hamilton on October 31, £20. © Joseph Brodsky 1996



Boredom can teach you the most valuable lesson in your life — the lesson of your utter insignificance



Looking good and Kwai ACE

Eighteen months ago I took a deep breath and moved on to start a new career, in another part of the country. Quite an upheaval, but I knew I was ready for a fresh challenge.

Busy is not the word - there's been a lot of socialising with work, finding and decorating the flat has meant some late nights, and I wasn't cooking properly for myself.

One day I realised - work's coming right, the flat's looking great - but look at me!

So first it was the new diet (goodbye to all those fatty foods) and then starting regular exercise. I bought a bike - now I cycle to work every day. I also tried Kwai ACE. It's a supplement that could help keep my heart healthy, by combining garlic's benefits with added vitamins A,C and E. The ACE vitamins are antioxidants that help protect the body's tissues against free radicals.

The effort has been worth it and I feel like a new person. Certainly something must be different. I met a friend from my old life in London the other day, but only after she walked straight past me without a glimmer of recognition.

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Hungary for freedom, or just hungry?

Forty years on, George Fischer recalls the Hungarian uprising

It was spontaneous and bloody. Some say it was a magnificent defeat; others say it was a striking example of the Hungarians' longstanding propensity to suicidal futility. Hungary gained the admiration of the West and incurred the wrath of the Kremlin and the Red Army. The 1956 uprising left its mark on history, but what of its aspirations? Are they relevant today?

In retrospect, the road to October 1956 is clearly discernible: having occupied Hungary in 1945, the Soviet Union installed the arch-Stalinist regime of Matyas Rakosi, whose rule generated enormous misery, frustration and anger. Stalin's death in 1953 and Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalin in February 1956 speeded up the ferment within the Communist parties of Central Europe, particularly in Poland and Hungary. Card-carrying intellectuals became vociferous in their condemnation of the Stalinists. Critical voices rose in the public at large, and in October, university students in Szeged and Budapest put their demands on paper: redressing the wrongs of the Rakosi regime, the withdrawal of Soviet troops, and free elections.

They called for a demonstration of solidarity with the Polish reformists on the afternoon of October 23. By the evening, Stalin's gigantic statue — which, in the words of a Hungarian novelist, "sodomised the skyline" — had been pulled down. By dawn, Soviet tanks were on the streets of Budapest. The fight was on. Small, uncoordinated groups with the single aim of getting rid of the Russians took on the Soviet armour. There was nothing more exhilarating than to bellow *Russzik, haz!* — "Russians go home!" Fear and fury are, as I found, a potent combination.

Patchy official Hungarian and Soviet records of the period reveal indecisiveness, reaction rather than action, until October 31, when the minutes of the Praesidium record Khrushchev deciding against withdrawal, because "it would encourage the American, British and French imperialists... in addition to Egypt we would hand them Hungary as well." Next day, the Soviet high command sanctioned Operation Whirlwind. The Hungarian Government, by then led by Imre Nagy, a Moscow-trained Communist turned reformer, went through condemnation, acceptance and finally support for the uprising.

At dawn on November 4, nearly 60,000 Soviet troops began Operation Whirlwind. Within days, armed resistance was crushed. More than 2,500 died and about 20,000 were wounded. Parts of the capital lay in ruins. Of the Russian soldiers, 700 were killed and perhaps 1,500 were wounded. More than 200,000 people fled a country of ten million inhabitants. Khrushchev put Janos Kadar in charge of the country, and retribution began: 20,000 people were imprisoned, 230 were hanged.

The author fled from Hungary in 1956.

By the late 1960s, however, a combination of economic reforms and relatively liberal social and political measures had improved living standards, and "goulash communism" was about to be established. Hungary took advantage of the almost complete de-Stalinisation of the Soviet bloc and became the leading economic reformer. By the late 1980s, it was also leading political reform — so much so that the party relinquished power and submitted itself to the democratic will in 1990.

After a 34-year hiatus, Hungary again stood on the threshold of democracy and independence, this time through a properly conducted election and with offers of substantial material help from America and the European Community. The Christian Democratic coalition Government saw the departure of Soviet troops, but it was inadequate to the intricate task of establishing a market economy without alienating its electoral majority. Nor did it manage to make a dent in the most insidious legacy of 40 odd years of Communist rule: corruption and mendacity. Dishonesty remains a tool of survival.

Yet this mentality briefly vanished during the uprising. There was no looting. Complete strangers provided food and shelter for the needy and looked after the casualties — as if someone had thrown a switch which triggered common decency. That decency perished before the Soviet tanks.

In 1994, the refashioned remnants of the Communists, the Hungarian Socialist Party, headed by the diminutive Gyula Horn, won the democratic contest by a landslide, with a manifesto that was a model of how to meet the preoccupations of a disillusioned electorate.

The 1956 uprising was sudden and too short-lived to generate well-thought-out political programmes. Independence, neutrality and democracy were the common impulses of the vast majority. Hungary is now independent. Neutrality is forgotten. To join the EU and Nato has become a talisman of national virility. The Hungarian People's Republic is dead. Long live the democratic Hungarian Republic: a callow democracy, but a working one.

Ironically, most of those now in government and in key industrial and commercial positions used to be stalwarts of the communist regime in its later years, and the opposition parties even talk about restoration. I think they have a point. But probably the majority of the electorate, whose living standards have fallen steadily since 1990 and who have not yet found their feet in a market economy, couldn't care less about the administration, so long as it improves their lot. This is why the uprising has so little relevance today: 1956 was about groceries; 1996 is about groceries.

Something radical has to be done. Overcrowding is now so serious that it has emerged that the Home Office is preparing contingency plans to lock up prisoners in magistrates' court cells, kept in order by private guards. A security firm confirmed this to a newspaper: prison and probation officers responded with dismay, saying that such cells are dark, smelly, and designed only as waiting-rooms.

Meanwhile the scheme for a mil-

— a local delicacy. "Rather like chicken," was his brave verdict.

Braggadocio

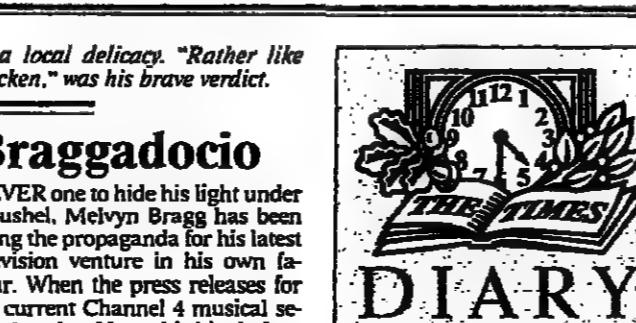
NEVER one to hide his light under a bushel, Melvyn Bragg has been fixing the propaganda for his latest television venture in his own favour. When the press releases for the current Channel 4 musical series *Leaving Home* hit his desk, a tremor ran through his bouffant. His own involvement had been underplayed.

A new paragraph had to be inserted containing the line: "*Leaving Home* was originated as an idea by Melvyn Bragg, who is an executive producer of the series. Michael Grade and later Simon Rattle enthusiastically embraced the idea, taking three years for the series to reach the screen."

"There were a few minor hiccups along the way," concedes Bragg. "There was a mix-up which was quickly sorted out."

Car daze

LORD MONTAGU of Beaulieu's 70th birthday party on Saturday night, held at his Hampshire pile, took the theme "If music be the food of love, play on". For the occasion, Montagu wore a suit with



DIARY

musical notes, a pair of trousers decorated with wine labels and a huge Carmen Miranda hat. The eclectic guest-list of 800 included Prince Edward, Sophie Rhys-Jones, Ken Russell and Lord Brabazon of Tara, King of the Crest Run.

"It's all a bit of a haze now," said Lord Montagu yesterday, "but I do remember retreating behind a curtain after midnight to sit in my 1909 Rolls-Royce and smoke a cigar. Unfortunately I was caught and taken back to the party, where we danced until four to the music of my dear old friend George Melly."

Club fiat

GRAPPA glasses have been clinking at Rome's most exclusive gentlemen's retreat, the Caccia Club,

on news of Fiat heir Giovanni Agnelli's engagement to a British girl, Frances Avery Howe.

The Caccia, with premises in a Renaissance palace once given by Napoleon to the Borghese family, is mooted as a possible venue for the reception. Giovanni only just scraped into the club after members tried to blackball him because his blood was not sufficiently blue (John Paul Getty Sr was similarly rebuffed). Only when Giovanni's uncle Gianni, the present Fiat honcho, threatened to resign was the young nouveau admitted.

Dished out

THIS jaw-dropping depiction of Diana, Princess of Wales, is the work of André Durand, specialist in saccharine portraiture. Entitled *Pizza Diana*, it will be unveiled in a west London restaurant next week by no less authoritative a figure in the world of arts than Sir David Puttnam, a regular diner at the haunt.

Lack of space prevents me from displaying the full picture, which shows Diana being presented with a new culinary concoction — the *Pizza Diana*, a "medley" of coloured peppers, mushrooms and cheese — by the restaurant's suave owner. It's hard to say why the Princess is depicted as a clown, but Durand

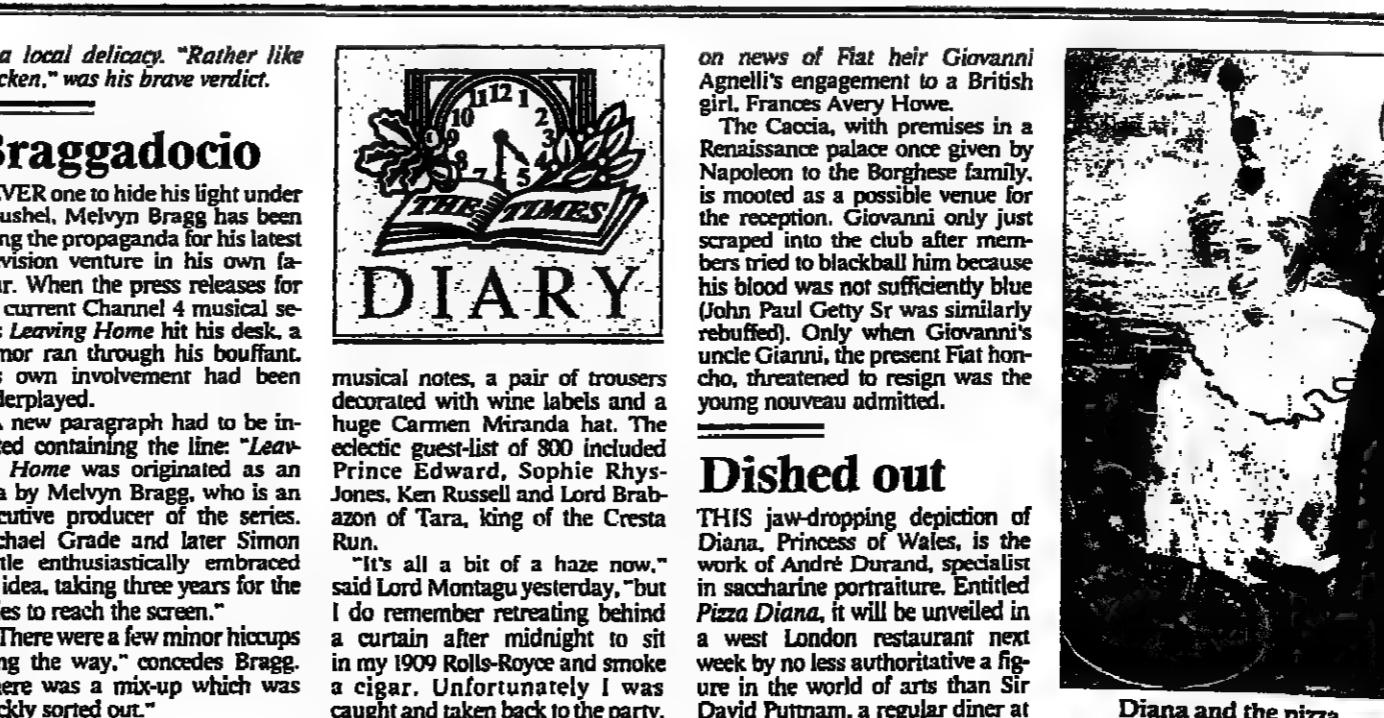
assures me that it was necessary, as was the striking shade of bright blue eye-shadow. Diana's office was unaware of the unveiling. "We have not seen this, or any other of these pictures," came the reply.

P.H.S



"He said that he was better than me at Citizenship, Miss!"

— *Cartoon by Alan Moore*



Diana and the pizza

Action to redeem society

Michael Howard

honours Philip

Lawrence's legacy

Events that tear at the heart of the nation can lead to a change of mood and to action that changes behaviour. Such an event was the tragic murder of Philip Lawrence, and the Prime Minister has made it clear that the Government will now play its part to the full in translating his widow's manifesto, published in yesterday's *Times*, into practical proposals.

Already we have taken further action to deal with violent and persistent offenders. We are setting up secure centres to provide a disciplined and secure environment in which a concentrated effort will be made to make them see the error of their ways. We also intend to extend tagging to young offenders, to keep them at home when they might otherwise be making mischief on the streets.

From January 1, it will be an offence to sell a knife to a person under 16 years old. We have banned altogether particular examples of dangerous knives, where it has been possible to define them as a way that distinguishes them from ordinary knives with legitimate uses. We are ready to extend the ban to other examples. Additionally, the police have been given the same powers to stop and search on school premises as they have already in public places. And the ban on handguns above 22-calibre — and on all handguns in the home — will produce the restrictions on gun-owning that so many people long to see.

We must also look to the longer term. In particular, we must act to prevent children becoming offenders in the first place. For example, there is a clear link between truancy and classroom discipline and juvenile delinquency. The Government is taking firm action on both fronts. Schools are now under greater pressure to reduce truancy, thanks to the publication of school figures measuring their performance in this key area. In addition, this autumn, legislation will be introduced to make it easier for schools to deal firmly with children whose behaviour jeopardises the education of others.

Since the beginning of the year, a small group of ministers has been working together to see what can be done to identify those young people who are most at risk of becoming offenders and to turn them away from crime. The group has been looking at various ways for local agencies and voluntary bodies to work together to prevent young people being sucked into crime. There are many examples on which to build. For example, the Dalston Youth Project in Hackney trains volunteers to befriend, advise and support 13 to 19-year-olds who are at risk of offending or who have already offended. The Home Office is funding an extension of the scheme to cover 11 to 15-year-olds.

In Milton Keynes, a Young People's Befriender Scheme pairs up young people who have been in trouble with trained volunteer mentors, who help them to deal with their problems and improve their self-esteem and social skills. These examples show the valuable contribution ordinary members of the public can make.

Much can also be done by confronting young offenders with the effect of their actions on others. The Hampshire police are developing this approach, as are several social services departments. Young people are made, for the first time, to face up to just what their behaviour can do to their victims. They and their families are encouraged to accept responsibility for their action and for putting things right.

Young citizens too have an important part to play. More than 1,000 Youth Crime Prevention Pals are around the country now spread the message of crime prevention in schools and beyond. I intend to invite youth organisations to a meeting so as to discuss ways for them to contribute to the creation of a world in which good citizenship is the norm, and violence is regarded by everyone with outrage.

Of course, the bonds of good citizenship are not confined to the young. There are now 150,000 Neighbourhood Watch schemes across the country, putting into practice the obligation of citizenship and helping to create a neighbourhood society. So there is a strong foundation on which to build, but there is much more to be done.

One widely shared worry is the influence of media violence. In the Criminal Justice Act of 1994, we tightened the controls on video and computer games. We requested the classification body to take into account the harm that these could do when deciding what to license and for what age group. Nor can we ignore the level of violence on television. We need to see what more can be done to reduce it.

The ideals of citizenship are worth striving for. The Government intends to establish an annual Philip Lawrence Memorial Award to recognise outstanding achievements of good citizenship by the young. We shall discuss the details with Frances and her children, and ensure that Philip Lawrence's example lives on.

The author is the Home Secretary.



PULPIT AND POLITICS

A Catholic contribution to a widening debate

The boundaries between pulpit and politics have rarely been so permeable this century as they are now. Politicians have been competing to appropriate parts of the Christian message for their parties like pilgrims grasping at fragments of the True Cross. Yesterday the Roman Catholic Church, having seen territory traditionally religious colonised by MPs, sought to make a provocative incursion onto the political battleground. Its paper, *The Common Good*, is a thoughtful appraisal of current political trends which refrains from endorsing any party but which is likely to give particular encouragement to Labour. The tone of argument is mature, and welcome, but not all the conclusions are necessarily consonant with the principles which the Church exists to uphold and the beliefs of some of its most dedicated adherents.

There will be resistance from some quarters to the idea of any Church, let alone the Roman Catholic, intervening before a general election with its own manifesto. There is a resilient strain in British public life, from free-thinking Whigs such as Charles James Fox to recent radicals of Left and Right like Michael Foot and Alan Clark, which abjures piety in politics. For the last hundred years the most electorally successful parties in continental Europe have, however, had Catholic social teaching at their heart.

That teaching was, perhaps best encapsulated by Pius XI in *Quadragesimo Anno* which argued that "the right ordering of economic life cannot be left to a free competition of forces". The Roman Catholic Church is opposed to any materialist doctrine but it has never made the mistake of treating communism as an equal evil with capitalism. However, the collapse of the former has left the Church at odds with the triumphalist expression of the latter. That was apparent in Pope John Paul II's 1991

encyclical *Centesimus Annus* and is reflected in every page of *The Common Good*. In its content and in particular its warmth towards a minimum wage, its invocation of "stakeholding", its wariness towards the extension of market disciplines in health and education and its support for trade unions, it is not congenial reading for robust free-marketites.

The document's insistence on respect for human dignity is welcome but the policies it embraces may not always be the best guarantee of the goals it sets. The point has been well made, not least by William Rees-Mogg in these pages, that support for a minimum wage actuated by a desire to reduce poverty may actually increase it by creating unemployment. The path to the poorhouse can often be paved with good intentions. Similarly, "stakeholding" can become a cover for the hampering of the competitive strength of a company, which in turn undermines its capacity to recruit.

One significant aspect of the document is the balance, almost Jesuitical in its ingenuity, between proclaiming the importance of what it sees as the right to life of the unborn child while insisting that no single issue should govern the voter's choice. The salience of abortion as an issue has disfigured American politics; it is reassuring to see it treated with such care here.

There is certainly a deeply felt need for moral voices in the nation's political debate. The scale and sincerity of the response to Frances Lawrence's manifesto in *The Times* yesterday is clear proof that her call for ethical renewal reflected a public yearning. *The Common Good* also speaks to that need. Although its prescriptions may not all be right for this fallen world, and the Church's eyes should always be fixed on the next, the document is a worthwhile contribution to a widening debate.

A PROVISIONAL VERDICT

Japan has voted for the LDP but not for its bad old ways

Three years ago Japanese voters, disgusted by a series of corruption scandals, broke the Liberal Democratic Party's 38-year monopoly on power in elections whose main theme was the imperative of cleaning the political house. Four Prime Ministers, five coalition Cabinets and a confidence-shattering recession later, the LDP appears again to dominate Japan's political horizon. In Sunday's elections to the Japanese Diet it came within 12 seats of a majority — not enough to govern alone, but enough to control the political agenda in whatever coalition Ryutaro Hashimoto, the LDP leader, cobbles together.

The hope that electoral reforms introduced since 1993 would produce a working two-party political system has not been borne out. The New Frontier Party (Shinshinto) headed by Ichiro Ozawa, whose defection from the LDP brought about its fall in 1993, lost not only seats but its bid to establish itself as the undisputed leader of the Opposition. Yet despite the failure of a united Opposition to emerge and the resurgence of the LDP's formidable grassroots party machine, it would be wrong to conclude from Sunday's result either that Japan has returned to the old political mould, or that the public has lost its appetite for political and economic reforms.

The dominating Mr Ozawa paid the price of running a troubled political house, up to a dozen of whose members could now, in the opportunistic traditions of Japanese politics at their worst, defect back to the LDP. He also lost ground because voters did not trust his grand promises to cut taxes by a massive \$102 billion when it was unclear how they were to be financed. Above all, his New Frontier Party no longer strikes them as particularly new, or genuinely radical. That aura has been appropriated by the newborn Democratic Party, established only last month on a "citizens first" platform.

Mr Hashimoto must now assemble a working majority, but this will involve more unsavoury compromise. For a start, he needs the Socialists on board, since they hold the balance of power in the Upper House, but that means teaming up again with a party widely despised for abandoning its convictions for the sake of sharing power. The LDP has been given a chance to prove that it is no longer the creature of Japan's strong corporate and bureaucratic interests. It is expected to provide firm leadership. If it fails on either count, the electorate will be unforgiving — and by the next elections the Democrats, the new standard-bearers of reform, could have evolved into the political alternative that has so far eluded Japan.

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BALLOONS OVER BRUSSELS

Belgium has lost its innocence without finding a role

Never have Belgians been so united. Across linguistic divides, party loyalties and cultural boundaries, thousands of Belgians took to the streets in anger, frustration and shame. The march through Brussels on Sunday was one of the largest any European city has seen: more than 320,000 people — one in every 35 Belgians — filled the main streets in a silent, dignified demand for justice. There were no slogans or scuffles: only a sea of white balloons represented the innocence of the children murdered by the paedophile ring which has brought Belgium to the brink of a moral and political crisis.

The demonstration, more than any of the spontaneous strikes and withering speeches of the past two months, has exerted a pressure on the Government that is irresistible. Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Prime Minister, promised the parents of the murdered children that he would create a national centre for missing children and that nothing would obstruct a full investigation into the girls' deaths. More significantly, he promised that Belgium would end the political appointment of judges.

The sad thing about this whole sorry affair is that it has taken a series of sordid murders to bring together a nation that for too long has wasted its energies in intercommunal bickering. There was at the weekend a solidarity on the streets of Brussels and an assertion of common humanity that rose above the

squalid deals of a political class that has failed the nation. What ordinary Belgians are demanding is not only justice for the murdered children, but an end to the cosy political relationships that have created a system where the protection of cronies is more important than exposure of wrongdoing.

All countries suffer, from time to time,

murders so horrible that they produce a wave of public revulsion and self-doubt.

Such cases only have political consequences, however, if there is a perception that they were caused by, or were symptomatic of, failures in the political system. This is why the Dutroux case is causing such an earthquake in Belgian life. There is no suggestion that child murders are more common in Belgium than elsewhere. But there is a widespread belief that too many scandals have gone unanswered, too many crimes unsolved. Belgians have traditionally had narrow horizons, limited, as a result of battles fought over their territory, to their families and immediate neighbourhood. Provincialism is a trait that has been accentuated by decentralisation, as a result of linguistic quarrels, that has left the central government virtually powerless. But Belgian society remains steeped in the precepts of mainstream Roman Catholicism. Last weekend, those moral certainties challenged the political establishment to live up to its responsibilities. Belgium is waiting for an answer.

Press report of barred evidence

From Mr William Clegg, QC

Sir, When Colin Stagg was found guilty of murdering Rachel Nickell on Wimbledon Common, he might have hoped that the verdict would be accepted by the police and the press. If so that hope was in vain.

The material published in *The Mail on Sunday* (report, October 21) demands correction.

The case for the Crown at trial against Colin Stagg was based upon a psychological profile of the killer which was alleged to match him. During a five-month police undercover operation designed to obtain a genuine confession all that was obtained from Colin Stagg was a confession to a crime that never took place and a number of details about the murder of Rachel Nickell that could have been proved false.

The conversations between Colin Stagg and the undercover police officer were ruled inadmissible by the trial judge and could not be relied upon as evidence from which to base a psychological profile, even assuming such evidence had been admissible. No other evidence was the subject of a ruling by the trial judge.

It was the prosecution who then decided to offer no evidence and the public can be certain that the decision was not made lightly. The reason no evidence was offered was because the other evidence could not and did not prove Colin Stagg guilty of the killing.

Having spent 14 months in prison before being acquitted by the due process of law is he now to be the subject of a campaign by a newspaper designed to suggest his guilt?

Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM CLEGG
(Leading defence counsel,
Regina v Stagg,
3 Hare Court, Temple, EC4.
October 21.

Cheltenham College

From Mr and Mrs Keith Douglas

Sir, You reported on October 17 (see also report, October 19, early editions; Diary, October 21) that the Cheltenham College headmaster, Peter Wilkes, has been forced to resign by the college council, apparently because of disappointing A-level results. On the same day you published a letter from the Headmaster of Ampleforth College advising that some prominent Old Boys were distinctly not among the highest academic achievers.

As Cheltenham College parents we are appalled at the enforced early retirement of Peter Wilkes. The recent A-level results were disappointing — perhaps a reflection of going too far in lowering entry standards to the Sixth Form — but this is being addressed. At the same time, the college has just achieved its best ever GCSE results.

Peter Wilkes has fostered professional and caring attitudes amongst his staff. Talent is nurtured, and youngsters mature believing in themselves and their abilities. Most importantly, the college seems to be a very happy place.

League tables have their use, but they should not be seen as the sole arbiter of achievement. Are we now to treat headmasters like managers of football teams and move them on when the going gets rough? Perhaps then we should place some of the college council on the transfer list.

Yours faithfully,
K. M. DOUGLAS,
M. L. DOUGLAS,
Red Dormers, Oakley Road,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Visiting opera praised

From Mr Chris Viveash

Sir, I was dismayed to read your opera critic's review (October 15) of the Romanian National Opera's visit to the Hippodrome Theatre, Bristol.

I attended the company's performance of *Norma* on October 10 and before curtain-up pondered how long it had been since the province had had a chance to see *Norma*. Twenty years is the answer, when it was done by Welsh National Opera.

Your critic makes destructive remarks on the performance of the Romanian company, but does not address the lack of choice for provincial opera-goers who want to see grand opera. ENO and Covent Garden have not put their noses out of London into the provinces for over 20 years.

Norma at Bristol was cheered to the echo. I hope the Romanian National Opera enjoys enormous success with their tour.

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS VIVEASH,
2 Roman Crescent,
Swindon, Wiltshire.

Thought for today

From Mrs Anne Atkins

Sir, I like Mr Lawlor's suggestion (letter, October 19) that *Thought for the Day* should consist of a period of silent reflection on a passage from the Bible, the Talmud, or the Koran.

I am confident that, depending on the passages chosen, a great deal more controversy could be generated than we have seen this past week.

Yours,
ANNE ATKINS,
St Dionis Vicarage,
18 Parsons Green, SW6.
October 19.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 8XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

'Flawed' funding damages NHS

From Mr C. B. T. Adams, FRCS

Sir, No one doubts the Government has increased its overall spending on the NHS in recent years (Conservative conference report, October 12). However, the level of government funding is such that increasingly the NHS is providing an emergency service; patients needing elective surgery are having to wait longer, or go without, or pay for it. In five years I suspect the NHS will be the NES — National Emergency Service.

However, what concerns many as much as myself is how the available money is used. The NHS accounting rules would not be tolerated in any business. They penalise the efficient and prevent successful departments responding fully to demand. This produces profound loss of morale, something that is not easily reversed.

The first 'flawed' rule is the 3 per cent 'efficiency' penalty, through which every department must make savings in costs, now in its 13th year. Obviously it penalises the efficient departments first, rather as if everyone were required to lose half a stone each year: those starting at a lean eight stone would by now be dead while those originally weighing 20 stone would be healthier.

The second rule is that 'prices (to NHS purchasers) must follow costs'. In other words, no surplus (or profit) can be accumulated to create capital to expand the facilities of successful units trying to respond to market forces, unless special permission (little known and rarely granted) is obtained from the central NHS Management Executive.

Yours faithfully,

C. B. T. ADAMS
(Consultant neurosurgeon),

Radicliffe Infirmary NHS Trust,

Department of Neurological Surgery,

Woodstock Road, Oxford.

October 16.

Fall in Labour lead

From Mr Frank Allaun

Sir, The nine-point drop in Labour's lead over the Conservatives shown in yesterday's *Sunday Times* NOP poll (report, October 21) substantiates the warnings by many active Labour Party members.

It shows that in the ABs, the better-off middle class, the Tories have recovered a 34-point lead compared with 11 points a month earlier. Amongst skilled manual workers Labour is ahead by 24 points and amongst unskilled workers by 41 points. That is where Labour's greatest support lies.

The way ahead for Labour is to satisfy the needs of millions of people who don't vote at all: nine million in the 1992 election plus two million who were not even on the election register, mostly poverty-stricken, repressed and alienated.

There are today 4.7 million people existing on sweatshop wages, ten million pensioners, two million "officially" unemployed and seven million trade unionists, and, in addition, their families. Their votes can be earned and won by looking after their interests instead of giving priority to the upper-middle-class.

This would not only be vote-winning;

it is morally right that Labour should help those in greatest need.

Yours sincerely,
FRANK ALLAUN
(Labour MP for Salford East, 1983-85,
11 Eastleigh Road, Manchester).

October 21.

Referendum issue

From Mr K. A. Gottlieb

Sir, It is not difficult to attract devotees to a single-purpose party; the simple purity is seductive and there are no distractions such as reality, responsibility and the like.

The Government's commitment to a referendum before a decision on European monetary union must surely represent the optimum attainment of the Referendum Party's aim. Votes for that party will mostly be diverted from the Conservatives. Although new Labour's view of Europe is unclear, socialists tend to be fundamentally sympathetic to federalism.

The only logical position for the Referendum Party is to heckle the Conservatives and hope that Major gets a large enough majority to examine vigorously all the questions Europe raises.

Yours faithfully,

KIM A. GOTTLIEB,

London and Bath Estates plc,

135 Hammersmith Road,

West Kensington, W14.

October 21.

Making allowances

From Mr Ian D. Bruce

Sir, Some years ago, in the days when wages were paid by cash in a pay-packet (letter, October 18), I had to try to persuade our workforce to disregard the Truck Acts and accept payment by credit transfer.

One wily old boilermaker told me that I could never expect to succeed as one of the great benefits of the pay packet was that, on going home on pay day at the end of the month, it could all be handed over unopened to the wife, so demonstrating great loyalty and devotion on the part of the donor.

He went on to point out with some satisfaction that the boilermakers never told their wives they were paid weekly.

Yours sincerely,
IAN D. BRUCE,
1 Sandway Park,
Harford, Northwich, Cheshire.
October 19.

Letters that are intended

for publication should carry a

daytime telephone number. They

may be sent to a fax number —

0171-782 5046.

Business letters, page 31

Discord on college composition rule

From Professor Alexander Goehr

Sir, In the last 50 years musical composition has come to occupy an increasingly important role in musical education, from GCSE to PhD.

Although there is a line to be drawn between pure musicality and historical research and free creativity, it has been demonstrated again and again that the one thrives off the other and that considerable overlap exists. Consequently we have witnessed a gradual increase in the cultivation of musical composition in schools and universities and employment of composers as teachers, not only with the intention of "making composers", but of contributing uniquely to the wider understanding of music



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 21: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by the Baroness Miller of Hendon (Baroness in Waiting) at the Memorial Service for Sir Anthony Parsons (formerly Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran) which was held in St Martin-in-the-Fields Church, London WC2, this afternoon.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Mr Nicolas Adams.

Princess Alexandra, The Hon Lady Ogilvy was represented by Captain Neil Blair RN.

ST JAMES'S PALACE

October 21: The Prince of Wales this morning received the Chairman of Scottish Homes (Mr John Ward).

His Royal Highness, President,

The Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust, this evening attended a Banquet given by the Keepers of the Quaich at Blair Castle, Blair Atholl, Pitlochry, Perthshire.

KENSINGTON PALACE

October 21: The Duke of Gloucester, President, East Midlands Tourist Board, this morning received Mr Andrew Pugh on relinquishing the appointment of Chairman.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, National Missing Persons Helpline, this evening attended a reception at the High Commission for the Republic of South Africa, Trafalgar Square, London WC2.

YORK HOUSE

October 21: The Duke of Kent, Honorary Air Chief Marshal, this evening visited Royal Air Force Odiham, Basingstoke, Hampshire.



Veterans of First World War naval battles: Jack Gearing, aged 102, and George Finch, 103 tomorrow

Royal engagements

The Queen will attend an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

Prince Edward will attend a concert followed by Beating Retreat given by Her Majesty's Royal Marines at Guildhall at 7.00.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the new Bolton District Probation Office, St Helena Road, Bolton, at 11.30; and accompanied by the Duchess of Gloucester, will open the refurbished Crown Courts, Minshull Street, Manchester, at 12.25; afterwards, he will visit the Goose Hill Regeneration Area, Trafford, at 2.30. Later, as Patron, Heritage of London Trust, he will attend a reception to mark the trust's 15th anniversary at Fishmongers' Hall, at 6.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester will open the new extension at Fairfield High School for Girls, Droylsden, at 11.30 to mark the school's bicentenary; and will open Canterbury House, offices of the charities After Adoption and Advocacy Services for Children, Chapel Street, Salford, at 2.30.

Appointment

Mr Christopher Battiscombe to be Ambassador to Jordan, from April 1997, in succession to Mr Peter Hinchliffe who will be retiring.

Today's birthdays

LORD BIRKETT, 67: Colonel J.N. Blashford-Snell, explorer, 60; Mr W.P. Bowman, chairman, Covent Garden Market Authority, 64; Mr L.R. Carus, former Principal, Birmingham School of Music, 69; Mrs B.D. Craig, former Principal, Somerville College, Oxford, 81; Miss Catherine Denève, actress, 53; Professor Charlotte Erickson, American historian, 73; Colonel Sir Dennis Faulkner, 70; Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan-Howard, Gold Stick to The Queen, 80; Miss Joan Fontaine, actress, 79; Lady (Michael) Fox, former director, British Institute of International and Comparative Law, 66; Mr Jeff Goldblum, actor, 44; Mr Mike Hendrick, cricketer, 48; Sir Michael Heron, chairman, 73.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Franz Lizst, composer, Raiding, Hungary, 1811; Sarah Bernhardt, actress, Paris, 1844.

DEATHS: Sir Clowdeley Shovell, Admiral of the Fleet, drowned off the Isles of Scilly, 1707; Thomas Sheraton, cabinet maker, London, 1806; Paul Cézanne, painter, Aix-en-Provence, 1906; Bob Fitzsimmons, world middle and heavyweight boxing champion 1891-1905, Chicago, 1917; Edward Carson, 1st Baron Carson, lawyer, the uncrowned king of Ulster, Minister, Kent, 1935; Pablo Casals, cellist, Puerto Rico, 1973; Arnold Toynbee, historian, York, 1975; Nadia Boulanger, conductor and music teacher, 1979.

The first parachute jump was made by André-Jacques Garnerin from a balloon 6,000 ft above the Parc Monceau, Paris, 1797.

The Metropolitan Opera House opened in New York, 1883.

Baron Rogers of Riverside

The life barony conferred upon Sir Richard George Rogers has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Rogers of Riverside, of Chelsea in the Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Appointment

Mr Christopher Battiscombe to be Ambassador to Jordan, from April 1997, in succession to Mr Peter Hinchliffe who will be retiring.

The Navy's Grand Old Men meet again

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE GRAND OLD MEN of the Royal Navy, the last of the few survivors of the famous naval battles of the First World War, gathered in London yesterday, Trafalgar Day, for a unique get-together.

Jack Gearing, 102, the only Royal Navy survivor of the 1915 Gallipoli campaign, Alfred Hutchinson, 100, the last survivor of the raid on Zeebrugge in 1918, and George Finch, an ex-Royal Marine, 103 tomorrow, who saved his ship from a German submarine torpedo attack, were among the distinguished group who met at the Imperial War Museum.

The first parachute jump was made by André-Jacques Garnerin from a balloon 6,000 ft above the Parc Monceau, Paris, 1797.

The Metropolitan Opera House opened in New York, 1883.

Church news

The Rev Graham Knot, Vicar, Newark Christ Church, Newark Team Ministry; to be Priest-in-Charge, St John the Evangelist, Mansfield (Southwell).

The Rev John Martin, Team Rector, Darrell-Sum-Amerliche to be Rector, Kirk Sandall and Edensor (Sheffield).

The Rev Robert McTeer, licensed

War. Wearing eight medals, three from the First World War and five from the 1939-45 War, he said he served in the cruiser HMS *Theseus* at Gallipoli and helped the troops to land. His "scariest moment" was when he was acting as a diver in a small boat as a diver tried to fix his ship

which was in trouble. "The Turks spotted me and started to fire at me."

On one occasion Able Seaman Gearing carried up the beaches a soldier who had lost a leg and on another he had to tell a wounded soldier to stop screaming for fear of alerting the enemy. His personal motto in the war has guided him throughout his life. "I have always tried to play the game."

Mr Gearing and his fellow survivors from the 1914-18 naval campaigns gathered at the Imperial War Museum in honour of a book about the Royal Navy which details their own wartime careers (*The True Glory, The Royal Navy 1914-18*) by Max Arthur, published by Hodder & Stoughton.

The oldest naval veteran, Colour Sergeant George Finch, who served in the Royal Marine Light Infantry, described how he saved his ship, *HMS Oropesa*, from a

German submarine. He was later awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

He recalled: "I was the look-out man. We were going about 14 knots when I spotted the submarine's periscope. I reported to the bridge, 'Submarine off the port bow, sir.' I had a loud voice and everyone moved quickly. I saved the ship. We sank the submarine. If I hadn't shouted, we'd have had it."

Mr Finch who now lives at Penbroke House in Gillingham, Kent, in the care of the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust, said: "I'm a serviceman through and through. I was a boy bugler when I joined the Navy in 1908."

Mr Finch posed for pictures with six other First World War Navy veterans and two from the Second World War. Another 1914-18 veteran, 97-year-old Leslie Kemp, who served with the Royal Naval Air Service, turned up later.

Bill Bullen, 96, who served in the Adriatic in *HMS Gloucester* in the First World War and in *HMS Worcester* at Dunkirk in the 1939-45 war, said of his war experiences "I wasn't torpedoed but I was bombed to hell."

Alfred Hutchinson, 100, recalled how in the raid on

Zeebrugge his ship, *HMS Iris*, was hit by German shells, one of which killed the captain and the major of Marines. Another shell killed 49 Marines.

As he was: Jack Gearing ready for action in 1915

Zeebrugge his ship, *HMS Iris*, was hit by German shells, one of which killed the captain and the major of Marines. Another shell killed 49 Marines.

No flowers please.

SCOTT - Flora May aged 66, peacefully at King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst on Sunday October 19th 1996.

Beloved wife of Donald, much loved mother of Peter and Anne and grandmother of Alan and Angela who will be sadly missed by all his family.

Funeral Service at St Nicholas Church, Midhurst on Friday 24th October at 11.00 am.

Private cremation in Spain.

Assistant Curate (stipendiary), Stamford All Saints' and St John (Lincoln).

The Rev John Shepherd, Vicar, St Cuthbert, Blyth, to be Curate, Roxeth (Blackburn).

The Rev Michael Peters, Chaplain to HM Prison, Horfield (Bristol) to be also Honorary Canon of Bristol Cathedral.

The Rev Rosamund Seal, Assistant Curate (NSM), St Anne's, Grantham Team Ministry, to be

also Honorary Canon of St Edmundsbury, Bishop of Lichfield.

Asst Curate (stipendiary), Stamford All Saints' and St John (Lincoln).

The Rev John Shepherd, Vicar, St Cuthbert, Blyth, to be Curate, Roxeth (Blackburn).

The Rev Arthur Ranson, Vicar, St Ambrose, Leyland, to be also Rural Dean of Leyland (Blackburn).

The Rev Robert Sloan: to be a Domestic Chaplain to the Queen.

The Rev Frank Smith, Vicar, St Peter, Henleaze to be also Rural Dean of Clifton (Bristol).

Service dinners

Officers of the Royal Navy, Naples

Admiral Sir Jock Slater, First Sea Lord, was the guest of honour at a Trafalgar Night dinner held last night at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Castel Volturno, Naples. Officers of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines and Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service serving in Naples. Vice-Admiral M.A.C. Moore presided.

HMS Victory

Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, Second Sea Lord and Commander in Chief Naval Home Command, presided and proposed the toast to *The Immortal Memory* at the Trafalgar Night dinner held on board *HMS Victory* last night in Portsmouth. The High Sheriff of Portsmouth, the High Sheriff of Hampshire, the Commandant of the US Marine Corps and the Air Member for Personnel were among the guests.

Dinners

Scientific Instrument Makers' Company

Mr William Lyons, Master of the Scientific Instrument Makers' Company, announced the granting of scholarships to young men and women reading instrumentation related subjects at various universities and presented the company's 1994 awards for the best Royal Engineer students at the School of Military Survey to Captain N. Surhander, RE, and Lance Corporal S. New at an admission court dinner held last night at Scientific Instrument Makers' Hall, LOM, W.J. McFarlane received an award for his efforts on behalf of the ship's company of *HMS Vigilant*.

Sir Derek Roberts, FRS, Provost of University College London, was the principal guest and speaker and Commander J.C. Tonemore, Captain of *HMS Vigilant* proposed the toast to *The Immortal Memory* of Admiral Lord Nelson.

The guests included:

The Masters and Clerks of the Spectacle Makers' and Optical Engineers and Chartered Surveyors' Companies and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter J. Muller, MBE, Head Instructor of the School of Military Survey.

Before the dinner Mr Lyons was appointed Priest-in-Charge at St Columba's Porvoo, Skye.

Diocese of Edinburgh

Duncan Ian McCosh, formerly Priest at St Mary's Dalkeith, and St Leonard's, Lasswade, has been appointed Priest-in-Charge at Christ Church, Falkirk.

Marion Keston, has been appointed Priest with the Ecumenical Team Ministry, at Livingston Ecumenical Parish, with special responsibility for the Lanthorn Community Centre.

Caroline Tracey Upton has signed as Curate of St Martin of Tours, Edinburgh.

Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

Gregor Duthie Duncan has been appointed Dean of the diocese. Kirstin Heather Marshall has been appointed temporary Honorary Assistant Priest at St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow.

Michael Clancy has been issued with a Warrant to officiate in the diocese. His commission has now ceased.

Elizabeth Maude Parrow has been ordained priest at All Saints' Bedehead where she will serve as a member of the Ministry.

Canon Thomas Montgomery, previously Rector of St Mary's, Hamilton, now serves as a Canon of Newlands.

Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

Ms Jean Margaret Harrison has been ordained priest and will continue to work at St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth, in a non-diocesan capacity.

Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness

The Rev Roderick Shaw, Hon Assistant Priest, St John's Rothiemurchus, and St Columba's, Grantown-on-Spey; Hon Assistant Priest, St John's Rothiemurchus.

Diocese of St Andrews, Dundee and Angus

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Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness

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Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. Davis and Miss C.L. McIntyre

The engagement is announced between Justin, son only of Mr E.W. Davis, of Chelsea, London, and Mrs J. Hamilton-Davis, of Fulham, London, and Claire, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C. McIntyre, of Oxshott, Surrey.

Mr C.S. Sanderson and Miss K.I. Gould

The engagement is announced between Charles Sebastian, son of Dr and Mrs Michael Sanderson, of Camden, London, and Katherine Isabella, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Gould, of Singleton, Australia.

Mr G.P. Shields and Miss F.E. McFadden

The engagement is announced between Graham Paul, son of Mr and Mrs W.K. Shields, of Belfast, and Fiona Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs W.C. McFadden, of Belfast.

Mr J. Tarteilia and Miss L. Kallender

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, only son of Mr John Tarteilia and Mrs Josephine Tarteilia, of Ryde, Isle of Wight, and Lydia, only daughter of Mr Brian Kallender, of Bathwick Hill, Bath, and Mrs Susan Massingham, of Whitley, Wiltshire.

Scottish Episcopal Church

Diocese of Argyll and The Isles Mrs Barbara Morrison has been ordained priest at St Mochua's Church, Oban, Argyll, Lewis. She is serving in a non-stipendiary capacity.

James Michael Porteous has been appointed Priest-in-Charge at St Columba's Porvoo, Skye.

Diocese of Edinburgh

Duncan Ian McCosh, formerly Priest at St Mary's Dalkeith, and St Leonard's, Lasswade, has been appointed Priest-in-Charge at Christ Church, Falkirk.

Marion Keston, has been appointed Priest with the Ecumenical Team Ministry, at Livingston Ecumenical Parish, with special responsibility for the Lanthorn Community Centre.

Court of Appeal

Law Report October 22 1996

Court of Appeal

Judicial notice of council breaches

Hackney London Borough Council v Mullens
Before Lord Justice Waite, Lord Justice Saville and Lord Justice Ottton
Judgment October 18

A county court could take judicial notice of previous breaches of undertakings to it by a local authority when imposing a penalty for such a breach.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment when dismissing an appeal by Hackney London Borough Council from an order of Judge Graham, QC, in Shoreditch County Court, imposing a fine of £5,000 on the council for breach of an undertaking given in an action by the plaintiff, Maureen Mullens.

Ronan Brosh for the council: the plaintiff did not appear and was not represented.

LORD JUSTICE OTTON said that the council appealed from an order of Judge Graham, QC, whereby he ordered the council to pay a fine of £5,000 in respect of a breach of an undertaking given to the court.

The undertaking was given on July 24, 1994, on behalf of the council by Judge Hordern at Central London County Court to carry out specified works of repair to a property at Denevor Road, Stoke

Newington, London, such works to be commenced on or before December 1, 1994 and completed before March 31, 1995.

Those works were not carried out or even started within the specified dates, and had still not been commenced in March 1995 when the matter came before Judge Graham. The case had arisen from a claim by the plaintiff, a secure tenant, for compensation for breach of a repairing covenant and for a mandatory order to carry out remedial work. At the first hearing before Judge Hordern a consent order was made which contained the undertaking.

When considering the appropriate penalty, Judge Graham said that the case was one of numerous examples of the failure on the part of the council to take sufficient serious promises which were made to the court. The time had now arrived, he continued, when the council had to be reminded of the seriousness of promises made to the court. The judge accordingly imposed the fine of £5,000.

The central question in the appeal was whether the court, when considering the penalty, was entitled to take into consideration other previous breaches in other cases. In order to answer that

question it was necessary to look at the nature and scope of judicial notice.

It was well established that courts might take judicial notice of various matters when they were so notorious, or clearly established, or susceptible of demonstration by reference to a readily obtainable and authoritative source that evidence of their existence was unnecessary. Generally, matters directed by statute or which had been so noticed by the well-established practice or precedence of the court, had to be recognised by the judges, but beyond that, the court had wide discretion and might notice much which could not be required to notice.

Court of Appeal held within the scope of the rule relating to courts which had been held to be local courts, and thus courts whose members were not merely permitted to use their local knowledge, but who were regarded as fulfilling a constitutional function if they did so.

His Lordship was satisfied that the court was the judge of his special or local knowledge of how the council had conducted itself in relation to undertakings given to the court in similar cases.

The judge's first task was to

...
...

Long Line Ltd of Korea v
Bridgeman Investments Corpo-
ration of Liberia and others

re Lord Justice Kennedy and
Lord Phillips

Judgment October 17

court could properly order a defendant subject to a Mareva injunction to submit to cross-examination on his affidavit of assets where it was just and convenient to do so in an order would, however, be exceptional measure, which would not become a routine feature of proceedings.

It was undesirable that a plaintiff should be able to extract material by such cross-examination on which to build his substantive case for trial; the Rules of Supreme Court could, however, enable the court to prevent such an abuse.

The Court of Appeal so stated, dismissing appeals by the third defendant, Dimitrios Yanavrias, (i) from Mr Justice Clarke who had ordered him to be cross-examined following the grant of a Mareva injunction against him and (ii) from Mr Justice Longmore who, in the context of his duty of controlling the ambit and conduct of the cross-examination, had permitted it to encroach on substantive issues in the litigation between the parties.

LORD JUSTICE PHILLIPS rejected Mr Allen's submission that the court had no jurisdiction to order a Mareva defendant to submit to cross-examination on a disclosure affidavit, or that even if such jurisdiction existed it would inevitably be wrong in principle to exercise it. The issue was covered by authority: see A. J. Bekker et al v Litt & Bilton [1981] QB 929 and House of Spring Garden Ltd v Water [1985] PSL 173.

The passage from Mr Justice Scott's Judgment in *House of Spring Garden Ltd v Water* [1985] 1 WLR 540, 529 on which Mr Allen had relied, did not provide any authority for his submission on the issue of jurisdiction.

Rejecting Mr Allen's argument that cross-examination should never be ordered unless it was the only means available of ensuring that the Mareva was effective, His Lordship said that the test was simply whether in all the circumstances it was both just and convenient to make the order.

In applying that test the court would have regard to the fact that it was a considerable imposition to subject a defendant to cross-examination and would consider carefully whether there were not alternative measures of achieving the same end that were less burdensome.

But the court had to be sure to guard against abuse of the Mareva process by plaintiffs who were using it in an attempt to discover facts which would assist them in the action. The fact that such cross-examination would relate to matters relevant to the substantive

issues was a matter to which the judge should have regard when considering whether to permit the process.

However Order 29, rule 1A(1), (3) provided a valuable safeguard against such abuse. It would seem to be tailor-made to deal with the point. If such cross-examination disclosed information which was relevant in the substantive action, the court had jurisdiction to prevent consequent injustice by dismissing an application to make use of it at the trial.

Without meaning to suggest that such a reaction would always be appropriate, His Lordship considered that the rule made it impossible for Mr Allen's submission to succeed. He would dismiss the appeal.

Lord Justice Kennedy agreed.
Solicitors: Hewett & Co; Inc & Co.

Correction
In R v Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, Ex parte Blood (The Times October 18) the solicitors for Mrs Blood were Leigh Day & Co.

In West Midlands Probation Committee v Secretary of State for the Environment (The Times October 18) Mr Rabinder Singh appeared as junior to Mr W. Robert Griffiths, QC, for the applicant.

LORD JUSTICE SWINTON THOMAS said that a child, S.C., was born in November 1994 and died in January 1995. His parents were Mr and Mrs C. The police were aware that S.C. had sustained serious injuries prior to her death. The parents had another child, C, and the local authority applied for a care order under section 31(2) of the 1989 Act in respect of her.

The parents opposed the order. In the course of the hearing the father admitted that he had thrown S.C. against a settee, resulting in the injuries which caused

Disclosing care evidence to police

In re C (a Minor) (Care proceedings: Disclosure)

Before Lord Justice Rose, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Swinton Thomas
Judgment July 31

Where a father, in care proceedings in chambers, admitted throwing his infant daughter against a settee, resulting in injuries which caused her death. With the leave of the judge the local authority wrote to the police informing them of that fact.

The judge later ordered disclosure of various documents to the police but refused leave to disclose the statements made by the parents or those parts of the transcript and judgment relating to the injuries sustained by S.C., including the evidence of the mother and father and other members of the family.

Miss Parker submitted that the judge had directed the police to consider the circumstances relating to the commission of an offence.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, with West Midlands Police Authority intervening, to vary an order made by Mr Justice Wall on May 8, 1996. The variation sought was to allow the inclusion in the order of the statements of Mr and Mrs C dated July 12, 1995, such parts of the transcript and judgment as related to the injuries sustained by S.C. and the causation thereof, including all the evidence given by Mr and Mrs C.

Section 98 of the Children Act 1989 provides: "(1) in any proceedings in which a court is hearing an application for an order under part IV or V, no person shall be excused from— (a) giving evidence on any matter in respect of which he has given or is giving evidence, on the ground that doing so might incriminate him or his spouse of an offence."

"(2) A statement of admission made in such proceedings shall not be admissible in evidence against the person making it or his spouse in proceedings for an offence other than perjury."

Miss Estelle Hindley, QC and Mr Christopher Adams for West Midlands Police Authority; Mr David Hershman for Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council; Miss Judith Parker, QC and Miss Deborah Eaton for Mr and Mrs C; Miss Sybil Thomas for the guardian ad litem; Mr Robin Sporn Smith as amicus curiae.

LORD JUSTICE SWINTON THOMAS said that a child, S.C., was born in November 1994 and died in January 1995. His parents were Mr and Mrs C. The police were aware that S.C. had sustained serious injuries prior to her death. The parents had another child, C, and the local authority applied for a care order under section 31(2) of the 1989 Act in respect of her.

The parents opposed the order.

In the course of the hearing the father admitted that he had thrown S.C. against a settee, resulting in the injuries which caused

his death. With the leave of the judge the local authority wrote to the police informing them of that fact.

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suspicion of having caused her injuries. The judge warned each of them: "Before you give evidence I have to tell you ... that anything you say ... cannot be used in any criminal trial against you which relates to the death of S.C."

The judge later ordered disclosure of various documents to the police but refused leave to disclose the statements made by the parents or those parts of the transcript and judgment relating to the injuries sustained by S.C., including the evidence of the mother and father and other members of the family.

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Steady accumulator stays ahead of the game



IN ASSOCIATION WITH
sports
Interactive

TWO months in, and the leader for the past few weeks is still there. Mr J. Staszkiewicz, of Ramsey, Isle of Man, retains his slender lead, now of four points, over a chasing pack in the race for £50,000 in *The Times* Interactive Team Football game.

Mr Staszkiewicz has been a steady rather than spectacular accumulator; this explains why he has remained the overall leader, ahead of some ITF selectors who have scored more heavily some weeks, but fallen away in others.

The weekly winner is Mr J. Decastry, of Hemel Hempstead, who wins the £250 prize. He scored 34 points this week with his team Robin's Barny Army, with Jason Dodd, the Southampton defender, his highest individual scorer.

Mr Decastry's team is:

Goalkeeper L Miklosko (West Ham)

Full backs L Dixon (Arsenal)
J Dodd (Southampton)

Central defenders S Campbell (Tottenham)
U Ehiogu (Aston Villa)

Midfield players R Di Matteo (Chelsea)
G Donis (Blackburn)
B Laudrup (Rangers)
A Thom (Celtic)

Strikers F Ravanelli (Middlesbrough)
D Saunders (Nottingham Forest)

Manager B Robson (Middlesbrough)



The return of Ruud Gullit, the Chelsea player-manager, from injury, could make him an attractive double points-carrier



If your team could be doing better, with your players lacking form and fitness, you can use the ITF transfer system which allows you to change up

THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

	IN	Southampton	£1.50m
	OUT	Sheffield Wednesday	£3.00m
52905	Ulrich van Gobben	Bentito Cartone	
42511	Bento Cartone	Ulrich van Gobben	
52904	Tony Cottee	West Ham United	£2.00m

LOANED PLAYERS

E McGilchrist (from Arsenal) to Manchester City, one week; M Taylor (Derby) to Crewe, one week; D Wessel (Dortmund) to Middlesbrough, three weeks; C Holland (Nottingham) to Birmingham, two weeks; B Angel (Sunderland) to Stockport, one week; T Wright (Nottingham Forest) to Reading, two weeks; R van der Laan (Derby) to Wolverhampton, three weeks; S Fitzgerald (Wolverhampton, three weeks); G Gabbiadini (Dynamite) to Birmingham, three weeks; M Williams (Sheffield Wednesday) to Huddersfield, four weeks.

Loan periods subject to fluctuation

to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually loaned or transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 266 966 line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call 0044 990 200 668.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000, or weekly £250.

All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1995-96 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Terrier Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED				
Goalkeeper	Keeps clean sheet*	4pts		
Scored goal	3pts	Striker	Scored goal	2pts
Save penalty	1pt	All players	Appearance	1pt
Full back/Central defender	3pts	Scored hat-trick	6pts	
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	Manager	Team wins	3pts
Scored goal	3pts	Team draws	1pt	
Midfield player	Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scored goal	2pts			

POINTS DEDUCTED			
Goalkeeper	Booked	1pt	
Concedes goal	2pts	Conceded penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender	1pt	Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scored own goal	1pt
All players	Manager		
Sent off	3pts	Team losses	1pt
Minutes played for 75 minutes in match			
Must have played for 45 minutes in the match			



PLAYING ABROAD?

An unbelievable offer starting in *The Times* on Monday October 28

<http://www.the-times.co.uk>

CHANGING TIMES

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 266 968

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom, call 44 890 200 668. You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selector PIN, which you will have to tap in, not speak. Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players you are transferring.

You may only make transfers in one team per telephone call. If you have entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

You may transfer two (but no more than two) individuals (two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by one from the same category and you must keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, two midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You must not exceed the £25 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

Calls will be charged at 45p per minute cheap rate, 50p per minute at other times. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Player out	Player in	Player code
Club	Club	Club
Player out	Player in	Player code
Club	Club	Club

THE LEADING 250 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL GAME

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts	Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts	Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	NT Monarchs	J Staszkiewicz	205	111	Friends 36	R Fyle	160	172	Over The Moon FC	(No name)	165
2	Skyforest	A Burton	202	111	E	M Corless	160	172	Warneford Winners	(I Roskill)	165
3	Sophie And Sam	G Foster	199	111	Nobby 11	J Brown	160	172	(H Gray)	(H Gray)	165
4	Generators	(A Love)	197	111	Wetherby Wanderers	D Wetherall	160	172	Gullin's Wonders	(C Hand)	165
5	John Hunt Taunton D	J Hunt	196	111	Grange FC	P Armstrong	160	172	Bob	(M Haswell)	165
6	John Hunt Taunton H	J Hunt	195	111	Triple Top Ten	T Bassett	160	172	Balwith Utd 5	(M Larcombe)	165
7	John Hunt Taunton F	J Hunt	192	111	T 35	(S Wilson)	160	172	Soccer Superstars	(J McCallion)	165
8	Noel's Ark	G P Dolan	191	111	Glen Duffers	E Cowen	160	172	Dan's Devils	(D Currie)	165
9	1st Elef	K J Burns	190	111	Fendor United	R Keenan	160	172	Thompson's XI	(G Thompson)	165
10	Huggy's Roarers	A Ringo	189	111	White Feathers	M Catchpole	160	172	Oystergate	(G Omaghene)	165
11	Schofield For Goals	K Booth	188	111	Gomark City	M P Stanfield	160	172	Mad Never Eddie	(E Kharodia)	165
12	Brain's Team	B Howes	188	111	Gfers Win World Cup	F Geary	160	172	Man's 1st XI	(J O'Connell)	165
13	John Hunt Taunton E	J Hunt	185	111	Jerry's Skates	D S Miller	160	172	Real Ale Madrid 2	(M Smith)	165
14	Dour Rangers 3	I Clayton	185	111	Sets Bolles	S Kinney	160	172	Gestalt	(R Rowe)	165
15	Nomads	N Brown	185	111	FC Big Hands	A Martin	160	172	12 Angry Men	(D Cook)	165
16	Lesley's Legmen	L Michaels	185	111	Freestyle United	P S Bonetti	160	172	(M Corless)	(M Corless)	165
17	Jones Boys Three	M Jones	185	111	Red Star Belgrade	R Keenan	160	172	Abien Hardies XI	(A Hyndes)	165
18	Purple Rain	B Gohil	185	111	Botex United 1	J Pull	160	172	Achilles 1	(A Soucher)	165
19	Plastic Filters 10	T Feahly	185	111	Xpat Missiles	M Jackson	160	172	Carl Michael Rangers	(D Walden)	165
20	Nobby 33	J Brown	185	111	Glass United	N Martyn	160	172	ND	(J Simpson)	165
21	Tulip's Tops	D Tulip	185	111	West Wonderers	S West	160	172	No Midfield	(J Portwood)	165
22	Mean Machine	P Ford	184	111	G Money FC	G Samuels	160	172	Porcelain Gods	(P Ryan)	165
23	Beeston Celtic	Bany Mcgivern	183	111	Dave's First XI	D Culbitt	160	172	Gunning For Glory	(A Bartholomew)	165
24	Sky Times III	L McCullough	182	111	Pamela Anderson	P Hands	160	172	Sundown City	(A Bowell)	165
25	Mayday	J Brown	182	111	Canton's Hotshots	D Connor	160	172	T 20	(T Barratt)	165
26	AS 4	A Boyland	181	111	Foreign Legion	K Rowling	160	172	Euro Paulo 1	(P O'Connell)	165
27	Pin Ups Two	T Reiter	181	111	Dunard	A Bourne	160	172	Ball Watchers	(J Murphy)	165
28	Hotspur Hotshots	H Rimmer	181	111	Dead Men Can Manage	R E Tunnicliffe	160	172	Spence Town	(A Spratt)	165
29	Devon	V Coker	181	111	A2	P Turner	160	172	Zig Zag Zak 25	(J Zeki)	165

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	Em.	Pts	Wk. Av.
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	0 -3	
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	-3 +2	
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	+5+28	
10202	V Bartman	Arsenal	0.75	0 -0	
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0 -8	
10301	M Baenlich	Aston Villa	3.50	+5 +3	
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	0 +8	
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-1 -14	
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0 0	
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	0 -1	
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0 +10	
10701	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	-7 -18	
10702	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	+5 -11	
10801	J Keane	Coventry City	0.50	0 0	
10802	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	0 0	
10901	R Houli	Derby County	1.00	-1 -6	
10902	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	-1 -1	
11001	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	0 0	
11002	I Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50	0 -18	
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	0 -1	
11102	J Kearton	Everton	0.50	0 0	
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.00	0 0	
11201	G Rousset	Hearts	2.00	-3 +20	
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	-3 +3	
11401	D Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	-1 -22	
11501	M Beeneny	Leeds United	1.50	0 0	
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	0 0	
11503	N Martyn	Leeds United	2.50	-3 -6	
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	0 0	
11701	K Keller	Leicester City	1.00	-1 -9	
11702	D James	Liverpool	5.00	+0 +11	
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	-10 +1	
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00	-1 0	
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 0	
12001	A Turner	Middlesbrough	1.50	-9 -23	
12101	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	-1 +3	
12102	P Sutcliffe	Newcastle United	4.00	0 -3	
12201	M Crowley	Newcastle United	3.00	+5 +9	
12202	A Fettis	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-2 -17	
12203	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0 0	
12301	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	-20	
12401	A Goran	Rangers	0.50	-20	
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	-1 -15	
12601	D Beasant	Southampton	1.00	+5 -6	
12602	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	0 +2	
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	-5 -5	
12803	A Coton	Sunderland	1.00	-3 +9	
12801	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	+5 +15	
12901	L Milikosko	West Ham United	2.00	-5 -11	
12902	S Maitone	West Ham United	0.50	0 +5	
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	-3 +5	
13002	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.00	0 0	



Philippe Albert, right, of Newcastle, celebrates his goal against Manchester United. His goals are valuable in ITF

Code	Name	Team	Em.	Pts	Wk. Av.
20101	S McMinnie	Aberdeen	2.00	-1 +6	
20102	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	+4+15	
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	-1 +16	
20203	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.00	0 +4	
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00	-10 +10	
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	+4+15	
20303	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0 0	
20304	P King	Aston Villa	0.25	-0 -5	
20305	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	-4 +9	
20401	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0 -5	
20402	G Le Saix	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0 -5	
20403	J Kenne	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0 -5	
20404	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0 +3	
20501	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	-1 -2	
20502	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.00	-1 +1	
20601	D Petrescu	Celtic	3.00	-3 -7	
20602	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.00	-3 +4	
20603	T Phelan	Chelsea	2.00	0 0	
20604	S Minto	Chelsea	1.00	-2 +5	
20701	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0 -6	
20702	B Burrows	Coventry City	1.00	-2 -2	
20704	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	-4 -4	
20705	R Genuax	Coventry City	1.50	0 -2	
20801	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	0 +3	
20802	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	-2 +1	
20803	J Kavanagh	Derby County	0.25	-3 +4	
20804	P Parker	Derby County	1.00	-2 +5	
20805	M Malpas	Dundee United	1.00	0 +8	
20806	M Perry	Dundee United	0.50	-2 +2	
20807	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.50	0 0	
20808	C Miller	Dunfermline	0.25	-5 -4	
20809	F Rolling	Dunfermline	0.25	-3 +4	
20810	M Hottiger	Everton	2.50	0 0	
20811	A Hinchliffe	Everton	2.00	-4 +4	
21002	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	0 -7	
21104	M Jackson	Everton	1.00	0 0	
21202	G Locke	Hearts	2.00	0 0	
21203	N Pointon	Hearts	1.00	-1 -7	
21301	W Miller	Hibernian	1.00	-9 +9	
21302	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	0 0	
21402	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50	-1 -7	
21501	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	-1 -1	
21502	P Beeves	Leeds United	2.50	0 -1	
21503	P Besley	Leeds United	0.50	-1 -1	
21601	M Whitlow	Leicester City	0.50	-1 +5	
21602	S Grayson	Leicester City	0.50	0 +4	
21603	N Lewis	Leicester City	0.50	0 0	
21604	F Rolling	Leicester City	0.25	0 0	
21701	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0 0	
21702	S Harkness	Liverpool	1.50	0 0	
21703	S Bjornebye	Liverpool	0.50	+16	
21704	P Chamock	Liverpool	0.25	0 0	
21801	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.00	-4+17	
21802	G Neville	Manchester United	3.00	-4+11	
21803	P Neville	Manchester United	3.00	-3 +3	
21901	N Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50	-4 -5	
21902	Branco	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 -3	
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 0	
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.75	-3 -7	
21905	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.25	0 0	
22001	S McMillan	Motherwell	0.50	0 +2	
22002	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	-4+12	
22003	S Watson	Newcastle United	2.50	0 +1	
22004	R Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50	-7 +6	
22101	J Beresford	Newcastle United	2.50	-4 +8	
22201	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.00	+1 +1	
22202	D Lyttle	Nottingham Forest	2.00	-1 -5	
22203	A Haaland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	-3 +3	
22204	N Jerka	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0 +1	
22301	P Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.75	-7 -7	
22302	D Kirkwood	Raith Rovers	0.50	-5 -5	
22401	D Robertson	Rangers	2.50	0 0	
22402	J Brown	Rangers	2.00	0 0	
22501	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0 0	
22502	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0 -4	
22503	S Nicoll	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0 +2	
22504	D Stanovic	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0 0	
22505	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	-7 -6	
22601	F Dodd	Southampton	1.50	-7 +6	
22602	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	0 0	
22603	S Charlton	Southampton	0.50	-4 +5	
22701	D Kubicki	Sunderland	0.50	-1 -8	
22702	M Scott	Sunderland	0.50	-2+11	
22703	G Hall	Sunderland	0.25	-4 -2	
22801	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0 0	
22802	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	-4+17	
22803	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	-3+12	

